Tobacco Bag Stringing Operations

THE LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA

THE COLLECTION OF
NORTH CAROLINIANA
ENDOWED BY
JOHN SPRUNT HILL
CLASS OF 1889

VC331.76
S93s

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012

http://archive.org/details/tobaccobagstring00stut

VC 33.5
S93s

I N D E X .

General Statement of Sherlock Bronson, President of Virginia-Carolina Service Corporation, Richmond, Virginia, of the circumstances and conditions under which the survey of industrial conditions in the tobacco bag stringing area was made, and certain conclusions derived therefrom .....

Letter of March 16, 1939 from Sherlock Bronson to Hon. Graham A. Barden .....

Letter of March 30, 1939 from Mrs. H. S. Jones, Agent, Leaksville, N. C. .....

Letter of September 6, 1938 from Luther Dyson, Supt. Public Welfare, Alexander Co., N. C. .....

Letter of October 6, 1938, from L. L. Smitherman, East Bend, N. C. (Yadkin Co.).....

Letter of September 6, 1938, from Charles C. McNeill, Supt. Public Welfare, Wilkes County, N. C. .....

Letter of September 7, 1938 from Mrs. Lee C. Taylor, Supt. Public Welfare, Granville County, N. C. .....

Letter of October 4, 1938, from W. T. Mattox, Supt. Public Welfare, Orange County, N. C. .....

Letter to Chase Bag Company from O. L. Crabtree, Chairman Dept. of Public Welfare, Orange County, N. C. .....

Letter of March 31, 1939 from Walter Childers, Taylorsville, N. C. .....

Letter of March 6, 1939, from Mrs. Eva Randall, Richmond, Va. .....

Letter of April 6, 1939 from L. L. Godfrey, Agent, Southern Bag Stringing Co., Inc., N. Wilkesboro, N. C. .....

Letter of April 1, 1939 from Mrs. Kate Pulliam, Leaksville, N. C. .....

Letter of April 7, 1939, from Rosebud Morse Garriott, Agent, East Bend, N. C. .....

8/8431
Hill

Reports of investigators on conditions of cotton tobacco bag stringers in Wilkes County, N. C. .....

Reports of investigators on conditions of cotton tobacco bag stringers in Reidsville, N. C. .....

Reports of investigators on conditions of cotton tobacco bag stringers in Richmond, Virginia .....

Reports of investigators on conditions of cotton tobacco bag stringers in South Richmond, Virginia .....

Group and selected individual pictures of North Carolina distributors .....

Group and selected individual pictures of Virginia distributors .....

Proposed amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act .....

VIRGINIA-CAROLINA SERVICE CORPORATION

GENERAL OFFICE

1413-15-17 EAST FRANKLIN STREET

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

April 13, 1939.

Hon. Graham A. Barden,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barden:

Upon my return to Richmond after my interview with you in Washington on March 16th, it was determined that a survey of the bag stringing conditions in North Carolina and Virginia would prove helpful in connection with the contemplated amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act. For this work I selected Mr. Carleton Stutz, a graduate of the University of Richmond, a young man of unusual intelligence, who has determined to make social welfare his life's vocation, and Mr. Peter A. Maxfield, another outstanding young man, who hopes to devote his life to welfare work. Both of these young men were instructed to go into the homes of workers who supplement their income by stringing bags, to interview these persons, and to record exactly what was found, irrespective of whether or not it was helpful or hurtful to the cause of bag stringing in the home. The photographs were taken by these young men, the idea being to portray home conditions as they found them. It is obvious from a reading of their reports that no attempt has been made to alter, or change, or shade the findings in any respect.

I have spent a sufficient time to read each report with care; the reports as a whole are typical of the conditions of the people in North Carolina and Richmond, Virginia, who engage in this type of home work. Their plight is almost unbearable, and while it is true that the amount earned by each stringer is not large, in the community in which they live it pays the rent, the light and heat for the home, and in many cases purchases other articles as essential as food and clothing. To the man who lives in the city and who, by reason of his vocation, is required to maintain a certain social standard requiring the payment of $50.00 a month rental for an apartment, the sum earned by these stringers is

VIRGINIA-CAROLINA SERVICE CORPORATION

GENERAL OFFICE

1413-15-17 EAST FRANKLIN STREET

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

equivalent to more than $50.00 a month to this latter type of individual.

If you will study the survey, so far as it pertains to negro workers, you will find that they are capable of and do string many more bags than the white stringers. In at least one of the cases herein included the negro stringers earn as much as $110.00 a month. Many other negro stringers earn comparable sums. A fair interpretation from this would lead me to believe that even if it be assumed that the stringing of bags could be done in factories, the work would be confined by the employer entirely to negro labor. Further, to eliminate home work would take away the only supplemental source of income that many people in the mountain districts of North Carolina have; the only work which they are capable of performing, and would deprive people who are required to take care of aged parents and relatives and children of tender years of all opportunity of giving to them the benefit of sufficient food.

We believe most earnestly that the stringing of bags is helpful to many people who receive these bags from distributors. While it is true that the corporation itself does not know who these stringers are, we are advised that the distributors give the bags, as far as possible to needy people. We most respectfully and earnestly suggest that some provision be made by Congress to eliminate all doubt concerning the status of home work in the stringing of cotton tobacco bags; that if it is felt that any further information is desirable on this subject that both Mr. Stutz and Mr. Maxfield be summoned and interrogated, and that additional and independent social workers be sent into the districts to obtain reports on the conditions of the people who do this work.

Respectfully,

SB-w

Law Offices

Tucker, Bronson, Satterfield & Mays

John Randolph Tucker
Sherlock Bronson
Dave E. Satterfield, Jr.
David J. Mays
Robert G. Cabell
Richmond Moore, Jr.

State Planters Bank Building

Richmond, Virginia

March 16, 1939

Hon. Graham A. Barden,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

In Re: Fair Labor Standards Act.

Dear Mr. Barden:

I am deeply grateful to you for the time extended to me this morning and the opportunity afforded to discuss the Wage and Hour law and its relation to the stringing of cotton tobacco bags. Just before I left Washington, my partner, Congressman Satterfield, transmitted to you a copy of an amendment to the law, which we feel will cover not only our situation but others similarly situated, and I am enclosing an additional copy of the amendment in order that it may be appended to the brief statement herein contained and made in support of the amendment.

Small cotton tobacco bags are used as containers for granulated smoking tobacco. The bags are made by machines, and all work in connection therewith conforms with the Fair Labor Standards Act. The insertion of the draw string and the tag appended thereto is done by hand, except in the case of one manufacturer, who is equipped with machines, but not to an extent sufficient to string its entire output. There are only three companies in the United States engaged in the manufacture of these cotton bags - -

Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, having its plant at Durham, North Carolina;

Millhiser Bag Company, having its plant at Richmond, Virginia; and

Chase Bag Company, having its plant at Reidsville, North Carolina.

The Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, a subsidiary of American Tobacco Company, is the only company equipped with machines to perform its stringing operations. This company fills all the requirements of the American Tobacco Company for Bull Durham Smoking Tobacco. The machines are patented and the Golden Belt Company has been unwilling to license the other two companies to use the patented machines.

It is reliably estimated that approximately 1,000,000,000 bags annually are made by the three companies. This involves directly the use of approximately 25,000,000 yards of cotton cloth, and indirectly requires 10,000 bales of cotton and the processing of this cotton.

The bags when ready for stringing and tagging are delivered to distributors, who place the bags with hundreds of householders in Virginia and North Carolina. These distributors do not receive any portion of the price paid to the party stringing the bags. The situation is not comparable in any way to the distribution of home work in Porto Rica as reflected in the hearings on January 4, 5, 6, 17 and 18, 1939, before the Honorable Merle D. Vincent upon the question of regulations on record to be kept by employers of industrial home workers in the United States and Porto Rica.

The only implement needed to effect the stringing is a small needle, which costs approximately one penny. The home worker is allowed almost unlimited latitude with respect to the time of return of the finished bags. The rate of compensation which usually prevails is from 50¢ to 75¢ per 1,000 bags.

The actual work of stringing is performed by various members of the family at moments of leisure. The home workers in the vast majority of cases are white and are engaged in agricultural pursuits. No one is permitted to work under the age of 18 years in spite of the fact that the work is of such a beneficial nature as to be terms "institutional." Doctors prescribe it for extreme nervousness. It is so simple a performance that some of the largest producers serving the industry are totally blind. The home is in no respect converted into a factory, the mebers of the family stringing individually or collectively at their leisure, usually while attending to other duties, such as cooking or nursing or caring for aged parents and relatives. It would be difficult to

suggest any economic or humane reason for the discouragement of the stringing of bags in the home, or, under the guise of the regulation of labor, to interfere with the instinctive habits of family industry and thrift.

It is conceded that the home worker engaged in the stringing of bags cannot earn 25¢ per hour. It is conceded that the industry cannot effectively check the number of hours the home worker engages in this pursuit. It is a fact that in many instances parties whose names are unknown engage in the stringing of bags, as it is not an unusual practice for a community store to distribute the bags to customers desiring to supplement their income. Except in the rarest instances the amount earned from stringing and tagging of bags is entirely supplemental to other primary income, usually derived from farming. While the individual amount of money involved is not great, the Millhiser Bag Company and Case Bag Company paid the following amounts in 1937:

Millhiser Bag Company

North Carolina	Virginia
$10,300.00	$71,200.00

Chase Bag Company

North Carolina	Virginia
$78,289.98	---

This is a total of $159,789.98. No figures are available for the Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, whose operations were fully as extensive as those of the other two companies combined, for the reason that only the perfectly made bag can be strung by a machine, and approximately 20% of the bags made are imperfect for machine stringing.

The individual family often earns as much as $300.00 a year from this source. While this sum, as previously stated, is not large, when the plight of the people engaged in this work is taken into consideration, it becomes alarmingly large. In the report of the National Emergency Council to the President of the United States rendered on July 25, 1938, and entitled "Report on Economic Conditions in the South", there appears in Section 5 thereof this statement:

"Ever since the War Between the States the South has been the poorest section of the nation. The Richest state in the south ranks lower in per capita income than the poorest state outside the region. In 1937, the average income in the south was $314.00. In the rest of the country it was $604.00, or nearly twice as much. Even in prosporous 1929, southern farm people received an average gross income of only $186.00 a year, as compared with $528.00 for farmers elsewhere. Out of that $186.00 southern farmers had to pay all their operating expenses, tools, fertilizers, seed, taxes and interest on debt - so that only a fraction of that sum was left for the purchase of food, clothes and the decencies of life. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that such ordinary items as automobiles, radios and books are relatively rare in many southern country areas. For more than half of the South's farm families - the 54% who are tenants without land of their own - incomes are far lower. Many thousands of them are living in poverty comparable to that of the poorest peasant in Europe. A recent study of southern cotton plantations indicated that the average tenant family received an income of only $75.00 a person for a year's work. Earnings of share croppers range from $38.00 to $87.00 per person, and an income of $38.00 annually means little more than 10¢ a day."

Again in Section 15 of the same report:

"A study of souther farm-operating white families not receiving relief or other assistance shows that those whose income averaged $390.00 spent annually only $49.00 on the food they bought, $31.00 on clothing, $12.00 on medical care, $1.00 on recreation, $1.00 on reading, $2.00 on education. * * * * * Southern people need food."

The American people have never been willing to permit any of its people to go hungry irrespective of the tax burden created in order that these people might be fed. A Wage and Hour Bill, no matter how commendatory the purpose of its passage might be, was never intended to deprive the people of North Carolina and Virginia of supplemental income, which would result in denying them of the "decencies of life" and would tend to lower the standard of living of a class of people whose standard is already pathetically low.

I am quite confident that it is not your desire to have me in this letter treat with the legal questions involved. Consequently, the issue will be dealt with on a broad basis, and if you desire a memorandum of authorities in support of our contentions, this memorandum will be promptly forthcoming.

Broadly speaking, the Act applies to employees of all concerns either engaged in interstate commerce or in producing goods destined for shipment in the stream of such commerce. If the parties stringing bags are employees, then the work performed falls within the purview of the Act and the Act should be amended to permit this character of home work. It is our belief and contention that a stringer of cotton tobacco bags under the prevailing conditions is an independent contractor answerable only for the results obtained and not for the means thereof.

Therefore, the act is inapplicable, but in view of the attempt on the part of the Administrator to cover by regulation all home work, it is highly desirable to clarify the situation by the amendment enclosed herewith. We sincerely trust that the Administrator will not object to the contemplated amendment, which will eliminate all-inclusive rulings which are necessarily legislative in character, and therefore illegal, and which tend to engender unnecessary animosity toward the Act and ultimately lead to its repeal or to a state of confusion in regard to its administration, which makes for uncertainty of uniform enforcement.

Further, by this amendment all undesirable home work is banned, and under the present law it is very doubtful whether any home work of any character falls within its purview.

Respectfully,

SB:MT

C
O
P
Y

Leaksville, N. C.

March 30, 1939.

Mr. Sherlock Bronson
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:

In response to your request that we as distributers of cotton tobacco bags for stringing write you our experiences, whether the work has been detrimental or helpful to our community, I would like to say it has been very helpful here, and I as agent, as well as the stringers in this locality, appreciate this work more than mere words could ever say.

For one thing it has been a spare time work and could be carried on in conjunction with other occupations. A mother with young children, who could not leave home to work, if any work was to be had, could string bags at home in spare time and earn enough to provide herself and children with sufficient clothes. Even provide money for school books and hot lunches for children in school. One mother is stringing bags to provide money for her daughters business course. Another is buying a sewing machine with money she earns stringing bags. Two mothers that I know of have bought scout uniforms and provided vacations for their children which they could not have had any other way. One mother of a large family of working age (only one of which has been able to secure employment) strings bags and provides medicine for her husband who is now a hopeless paraletic. She tells me she keeps all insurance premiums paid, as well as buying medicine, clothes, food and other necessary things that the one at work cannot provide.

A school teacher at Leaksville graded school strings bags in her spare time to buy books for the under privileged children in her grade who haven't been able to get them before.

Then there are a number of blind, crippled, and handicapped people here, who could not find work in regular fields. If work was plentiful. These people have to live some way, probably they have families who do all in their power for them. Yet there are always things needed that cannot be provided. Now that they can get bags to string, they not only can provide the necessary things for themselves, but it gives them a new outlook, a feeling that they are now useful citizens, instead of helpless burdens.

These are only a few instances of the real conditions here. But if you will send some one to investigate I can take you to dozens of homes where these bags are not only appreciated, but where they are a real necessity.

The mills here have been running short time for several years now. And I believe less than one half of the people normally employed are now at work. Boiled down this means there probably is one in each household partly employed. So every day I have hundreds of requests for bags above that I am able to provide. They come at me from every angle, telephone, doorbell and since my business is in my residence, they'll even go around the house and come in the back door just to tell me how needy they are, and ask me to please get them some bags to string to help out in the little they now receive.

Those fortunate enough to get the bags tell me they have been greatly benefited and often tell me they have no idea how they could have managed to live without them. So since the work is really an easy simple pastime, enjoyable as well as profitable, I cannot feel it has ever harmed any one.

Mr. Bronson, what we people of North Carolina need is more work, an encouragement of private industry, and certainly not a cecession of the little we have left. So won't you please send this letter to our Congressmen and ask them to plead our cause for us? Tell them we prefer to make an honest living by the sweat of our own brows rather than let our government support us. But how can we do this if private industry is discouraged to closing its doors? Time was when we needed spare time to rest and play, but now all we have is spare time. So we need some good honest work to live on. I for one vastly prefer being worked to death to doing nothing and starving to death. And I'm sure many others feel the same way. Then please tell our Congressmen if they cannot do anything to encourage private business, so it can open its doors and put men back to work, then don't stand by and let the Wage and Hour Bill take what is to some of us the "last hope".

Just now there are a great number of our people living altogether on welfare. And if our bags are taken from us the government will have quite a few more families to take care of, either in welfare or government work for something would have to take its place at once or these people will suffer.

So far I haven't been able to work out any way to keep time on bag stringing. I rather thought of it

as a contract, paying so much for so many finished bags, regardless of whether the work was finished in an hour or in a month. Have been leaving that entirely up to the stringer as to what amount of time she wanted to devote to bag stringing. Now, in studying the matter I wonder if I wouldn't be defeating more than helping anyone by keeping time on the work. No way could be provided for that except to gather the stringers under one roof. And in doing that our mothers with young children, our blind and crippled and handicapped ones who now so happily earn for them selves would be left out again. Just as they are in all other occupations. So I feel that the only way I could handle this work is the way I have been doing in the past.

Trust our work and its conditions will be thoroughly investigated before it is taken from us for even if business was good and there was a job waiting for every able bodied man and woman in this community, our bags would still be needed and appreciated for the extras it provides and for the hope it gives those who are handicapped and who never will be able to work in regular fields of endeavor. So please put me on record as one who has found this work beneficial with not one instance of its ever having hurt anyone.

Sincerely,

Mrs. H. B. Jones, Agent,
Leaksville, N. C.

ALEXANDER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

TAYLORSVILLE, N.C.

September 6, 1938.

Mr. O. L. Crabtree,
Hillsboro, N. C.

Dear Mr. Crabtree:

I have been informed that the stringing of bags in the county may be discontinued. We have approximately 500 stringers that received about $10,000.00 annually. The majority of these workers are small farmers, and depend largely on this money for their income. I feel if this would be discontinued a majority of these families would be forced to apply to the Welfare Department for aid. We now have a tremendous case load in this county, and it will be impossible for us to render assistance to these stringers.

I personally know what the stringing of bags means to these people, for having been reared in the country I can very well remember how when I was a child my own people depended upon the stringing of bags for food and clothes.

I am sure that anything that can be done to keep this little business running will be greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Luther Dyson.

Luther Dyson, Superintendent
Department of Public Welfare,
Alexander County.

LD:vm

East Bend, N. C. (Yadkin County.)

October 6, 1938.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It has just been brought to my attention that there is a possibility that the women of Yadkin Co. are likely to lose the work of stringing tobacco bags. At present I am serving Yadkin County as one of their three commissioners and feel it is my duty to call your attention to this fact. For years I have owned and operated two grocery stores in this county. I fully realize the true benefit this home work has been to the many families I have served. This county is altogether a farming county and since the past few years have been bad farm years I can mention any number of families that have entirely depended upon the stringing of tobacco bags to provide groceries and other things necessary for their families. In many cases they have kept families from asking the county for help. The bag stringing in most cases is done by the mother of the family who cannot leave home for outside work.

Tobacco bags have been strung in this county as home work for thirty-five years or more and it would be a very distressing blow to the families that have depended upon them for years to lose this work now.

Trusting you will see this situation as I know it to be and give it due consideration, I am

Very truly yours,

L. L. Smitherman.

C
O
P
Y

THE WILKES COUNTY

BOARD OF CHARITIES AND PUBLIC WELFARE

WILKESBORO, N. C.

September 6, 1938.

Mr. C. L. Crabtree,
Hillsboro, N. C.

Dear Mr. Crabtree:

It has just been called to my attention that the Bag Companies will likely have to go out of business should it be decided that they must come under the Wage and Hour Bill which goes into effect next month.

In this connection I would like to state that the bag industry here in Wilkes County has been of untold value to our people. This business has given an income, even though small, to a large number of families that otherwise would not have had any income except from some charitable organization. I have found that in dealing with charity cases here in Wilkes that a large number of them tie tobacco bags which does give them some income. The greatest trouble here is that the people have not been able to secure as many bags as they are able to work.

I have talked with our bag representative here in Wilkes County and he tells me that they have not been able to secure as many bags as they are able to work.

I have talked with our bag representative here in Wilkes County and he tells me that they have been paying out around $100.00 per day to the people in this section for working tobacco bags. I feel sure that this has been a great help to our people.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Charles C. McNeill,
Supt. Public Welfare.

CCM/m

C
O
P
Y

GRANVILLE COUNTY
WELFARE DEPARTMENT
MRS. LEE C. TAYLOR, SUPT.

OXFORD, N. C.,

September 7th, 1938.

Mr. A. L. Fletcher,
Commissioner of Labor,
Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

It has been brought to my attention that there is some possibility of the Wage and Hour bill preventing people in Granville County from stringing tobacco sacks. Mr. L. L. Gresham, the local distributor, gives us the information that he carries a list of approximately four hundred and ninety-two regular workers. This industry brings into the county approximately twelve thousand dollars a year. A large portion of these sacks are distributed among farm families, thus providing necessities for the family which would probably have to be provided by this department if this work was not available.

I wish to add this recommendation in behalf of the people of Granville County.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Martha F. Taylor

E.
Mrs. Lee C. Taylor,
Supt. Public Welfare,
Granville County.

MFT/l

C
O
P
Y

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

W. T. MATTOX
SUPT. PUBLIC WELFARE
HILLSBORO, N. C.

October 4, 1938.

Mr. A. L. Fletcher
Commissioner of Labor
Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

It has been brought to my attention that there is some possibility of the Wage and Hour Bill preventing people in Orange County from stringing tobacco sacks.

I would like to state that the bag industry has been of untold financial value to a considerable number of Orange County people. While the amount seems small it affords most of these people about all the ready cash that they have. Should this source of income be cut off from them it would mean the multiplication of calls upon the welfare department in our county and with our limited money we would not be able to meet near all these calls. The people who string bags, as a rule, are unable to do public work and most of them are aged and infirm.

I trust that you will see fit to allow these people to continue to string bags in their homes. Doing the work in their homes as they do, means that they use time, for the most part, that would be spent as leisure time were it not for the fact that they had this little work to do by which they can earn a very small pittance but which to them means a great deal.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration in this matter, I am

Yours truly,

(Signed) W. T. Mattox,
Supt. Public Welfare.

C
O
P
Y

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

W. T. MATTOX
SUPT. PUBLIC WELFARE
HILLSBORO, N.C.

Chase Bag Company,
New York, N. Y.

Attention Mr. Sheldon:

Dear Sir:

Mr. Richardson has requested that I forward you letters I have pertaining to the possibility of discontinuing the stringing of bags in the homes and the effect it will have on the Welfare Department in the event this work is stopped.

This stringing agency was started three years ago to help people who had a small income but not quite enough to exist. Without help from somewhere these are tenant farmers, part-time housekeepers, laundresses and older persons living with married and son-in-laws whose income is not enough to keep their own families, in fact no person I have stringing bags (and I have about four hundred) could possibly compete with laborers in public work as most of them are unable to do public work but can do this kind of work.

I can remember thirty years ago my grandmother and most of the people in the neighborhood strung and tagged bags in their homes.

This is not a sweat shop business but part-time labor done mostly at night while gathered around the family circle, the same as fancy work or old-time quiltings, and if taken out of the homes it would work quite a hardship on these people as it could not be replaced.

I hope you will have success in continuing this work as it has been done for forty or fifty years.

I am

Yours truly,

(Signed) O. L. CRABTREE, Chairman.

CLC:l

Taylorsville, N. C.,

March 31, 1939.

Mr. Shlerlock Bronson

Richmond, Virginia

Dear Mr. Bronson:

I am deeply grateful to you and to all others who have made it possible for us to carry on this work, The Stringing Of Tobacco Bags, in our county. It is our greatest desire that you continue to fight for us and our people who so greatly need and depends on this work.

We would feel so keenly the loss of this work. And may we urge that you do all you can in keeping and supplying us with bags.

I have been engaged in this work for nearly four years and have paid out an enormous amount of money monthly to these stringers who did this work at their leisure time. Hundreds of our stringers depend entirely upon this work for their sole income. They live on small farms and are unable to live without the help of aid elsewhere. Our welfare problem is so great that the relief funds cannot take care of many others.

Should this work be taken away from us, there would be nothing to substitute in the place of bag stringing. These people will have to be cared for. We are pleading with you to help us and let us not make the relief problem any more burden.

In my own personal experience, I have been reared on a small farm and have known just how much we depended on bags to buy our clothes and help us to get an education.

And in conclusion, may we ask that you strive earnestly and long to win this fight for our poor people. Many thanks.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WALTER CHILDERS, Agent.

3-6-39

1720 Perry Street,
Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. Bronson.

Dear Sir;-

Please do all you can to help us have our bags to string in our homes. I have been an agent for bags, for the past eight years. I had a home well furnished and was just starting in the store business eight years ago when I was burned out and lost everything I had, stock in store, furniture, clothing and everything I possessed, including valuable jewelry. My husband had no job and could not get any. He is old and unable to work. I had two little children to support, when Millhiser Bag Co. gave me a position as agent, in handling bags for them. I bought furniture and furnished my home, paid my rent, water and light bill from the money I earned through the bag agency. Since I haven't been able to get the bags to supply my bag-stringers, my husband I string bags all our spare time. That is the only way we can earn money to pay our rent, water and light bill, and help pay for food. The city give us $2.50 per week for groceries, to fee three, that amounts to about 83 cts. apiece per week. You know it is impossible for me to buy substantial food for that amount. I have over two hundred ladies that string for me when I can get the bags to supply them. They all need the money they earn from stringing bags. If the bags are discontinued being strung in the homes there will be great suffering among the people throughout Richmond, Petersburg and the surrounding counties. Most of the people stringing bags consist of old ladies that could not get work in any factory, crippled ladies that are not able to earn money any other way. Besides it is a pleasure for them to have the bags to string to keep their minds occupied. Ladies that have infants or small children that they could not leave to go out to work in factories. If the bags are taken away from the people more expense will fall on the government, for the people cannot find work and besides so many are disabled to work on anything but stringing bags. Their rent have to be paid, besides food and other necessary things. The people are perfectly satisfied with their home work of stringing bags.

Please do all you can to help us keep the work in our homes. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for you kind and generous cooperation.

Very truly,

(Signed) MRS. EVA RANDALL.

L. L. GODFREY, AGENT

SOUTHERN BAG STRINGING CO., INC.,

N. WILMESBORO, N.C.

April 6, 1939.

Mr. Bronson,

Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Sir:

In regards to tobacco bags, I was our of regular employment for three years until I got in contact with the Bag Co. and have been able to have work the most of the time which I sure appreciate. If the bags is stopped at this time it will not only leave me with any income at all but thousand of others will be in the same fix. Do hope Congress can see fit to let us continue our work and not cause us to suffer as we will surely do if they will not let us have the bags.

Yours truly,

(Signed) L. L. GODFREY.

Box 132, R. #1,
Leaksville, N. C.,
April, 1, 1939.

Mr. Sherlock Bronson,
Box 644,
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:

I am kindly writing asking you please not to take the stringing of bags away from Mrs. Jones, our Agent for our community.

For two years I have been stringing bags. If the bags were taken away from us I would not be able to pay my insurance. I have two children and myself to clothe. I am too old to get a job in the mill. The bags help my children and me in every way.

Stringing of bags is a big help to our community. It helps the older people who are too old to work on public job. There are young girls stringing bags, they keep them at home off the street. There are several blind people stringing bags that can't get anything else to do.

The stringing of bags is a great helpto our community and we will appreciate all you will do for us to keep the stringing of bags in our community.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Mrs. Kate Pulliam.

C
O
P
Y

MORSE BAG COMPANY

East Bend, North Carolina.

April 7, 1939.

Mr. Sherlock Bronson,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with your request of March 28th, I am glad to give you an idea of my experience in working with tobacco bags. My mother and father, as far back as I can remember, have worked with tobacco bags. The work has been a great help to us and it has been a wonderful help to the people living in the county in which we live. I know personally the families that do this work and know of mothers that have to solely depend upon the work for the spending money for their children. This county does not provide any industry in which the women can make any money. It has two small basket factories and saw mills that give work to a few men. Most of the people that string these bags own small homes or rent farming land from other farmers and the only money crop we have is tobacco. This, you see, limits the income of the renters as they can only have small acreage. I do not know how some of the people could meet their demands without the bags to help them. There are years when the tobacco crop is a failure and then the bags help the farmers to supply necessary groceries and quite often they have told me that in bad crop years they have saved their bag money to pay the tax on their property. The women in the families use the bag money for their own money and to buy necessary things for the children they could not have without this extra money. They are not complaining about the price of the work as they do it at times when the farm and other work does not require their help. They are only begging for more of the work to do. When we do not have work for all the stringers to do we have to quite often give it to those that we feel need it the most and quite often a customer will say to me, "I can make out without any bags this time but please let my neighbor have them for they have had so much sickness lately. Doctor bills to be paid, you you."

I would be sorry to lose this work but it would be terrible, I think, to take it from people who need it so badly.

Very truly yours,

Rosebud Morse Garriott, Agent

MRS. KUHN, North Wilkesboro, N. C., married and has one child, who is also married. She is 68 years old and her husband is in his sixties, crippled.

INCOME: Husband works in furniture factory about six months out of a year at thirty cents an hours. Only other income is from bag stringing, from which wife can make $10.00 to $12.00 a month. They own their home, so there is no rent. Water and electricity cost $2.00 per month. The wife has occasional doctor's bills. All the rest of their money is spent on food and clothing.

HOME CONDITIONS: Husband and wife are only occupants of two room house. The house has electricity and two sinks with running water. There are no inside toilet facilities. The house is in poor shape and is not very well kept, since his wife is crippled. The house is badly furnished. They have a radio. She has been stringing bags for about thirty years and does about 5500 a week. This is the only work she can do besides her house work because she is crippled in her legs and can only hobble around. She enjoys doing this work because it keeps her occupied and brings in additional money which is

desperately needed. She has only been to a doctor three times in the last four years and should see one much more frequently. Bag work hinders her in no way. She can't afford to spend much money on amusements, and this simple type of work is done in spare time when she is unoccupied.

MRS. EVIE WINGLER (widow), about 70 years, married and has two children living with her. Live at Reddies River, N.C.

INCOME: She rents her land to her son who gives her a third of what he makes. She has another son who has a job occasionly and helps her out.

EXPENSES: Her taxes are $1.50 a year. Speinds everything for food because she can't raise any herself.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has two rooms and she owns 37 acres of land. The house is in very ppor condition and they have no conveniences or comforts. She owns a cow and a dozen hens. Stringing brings about $11.50 a month and this money keeps her from starving. Since she is unable to do any other kind of work she strings bags as much as possible. She has never suffered any ill effects from this work.

STAMPER, MRS. DAISY; aged 40; married; eight children;
resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Anna, aged 21.

Ruby, aged 20.

Edward, aged 18.

Georgie, aged 13.

Bob, aged 11.

G.D., aged 7.

Pauline, aged 4.

Virginia, aged 1.

INCOME: Husband works on Government park project at about $20.00 per month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Live in a one-room house (has small back room in which the cooking is done, and the corn, potatoes, etc. are stored. Have only a small garden in which a few vegetables are raised. One dollar a month is spent on burial insurance. The house was very delapidated and unsanitary. The walls had big cracks in them and were partially covered with paper to keep out the weather. The children were very shabbily clothed and filthy. The room in which they all slept was very ill-smelling and dirty.

All the money earned by the husband is spent on

food and clothes. The bag money is needed for food and to pay the burial insurance or fee. Since the bags have been temporarily discontinued they have had to borrow money for food and the insurance. They cannot make a go of it if the bags are cut off. They earn about $14.00 a month stringing bags. The house and land belongs to her father who pays the rent on it. She is in bad health and should receive medical attention and have medicine, but it will be impossible to have either if the bags are discontinued.

BLEVINS, MRS. CORA, married, aged 35, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Beverley, aged 11,

Cecil, aged 9.

Mura, aged 6,

Kelley, aged 4,

Dorothy, aged 1.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS:

They rent a one room shack and about 8 acres of land. by tending this land they pay one-third of the produce to its owner as rent. All of the eating, sleeping and cooking is done in one room. The house is in a very delapidated state and unfit for housing. The children were all barefooted and very dirty. The money which is earned from bags amounts to about $10 a month and is spent for food and seed. They own nothing. The husband is in very poor health. He has high blood pressure and for this reason has been unable to hold a job. He is in need of medical attention but is unable to afford a doctor. All that he can do is to work the farm when he is able to be out of bed. The family is in desperate circumstances and will be unable to exist if the bags are taken away.

MRS. ALICE JOHNSON, Wilkes County, N. C., has 4 children. She is 38 years old and her husband is about 40.

INCOME: Husband works for P.W.A. 16 days a month for $25. The P.W.A. gives them a small food allowance, but this is their only income besides earnings from stringing bags, which is about $15.00 a month when there are any bags to do. Rent is $3.00 a month. They don't raise any food; therefore their food is $10.00 a month which is all they can afford. There has been a good deal of sickness in the family so they owe quite a few doctors bills. They aren't able to get ahead financially on account of bills.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 4 rooms and is kept in good condition. However, there are no conveniences or luxuries. All in all they would be fairly well off if they didn't owe any money. There is not enough land to do any farming but they have a cow and 8 chickens. Wife has been stringing bags since she was a child and gets restless when she has no bags to work on. She doesn't get cash for this work, but takes it out in trade. She earns about $25.00 a

month. Some of the storekeepers who act as distributors for the bags do not get paid for doing this; therefore, they will only pay the stringers in goods and collect cash from the local agents for themselves on the bags they deliver which they have collected from the stringers.

MRS. M. M. ANDERSON, Wilkes County, N. C., has 7 children living with her.

INCOME: Husband works for $11 a week with W.P.A. One of their sons has an occasional job with a sawmill at $11 a week and he helps out with expenses. They won't admit it, but they are on Relief. Electric bill is $1.50 a month, taxes are $9 a year and groceries are about $8 a month which includes feed for stock.

HOME CONDITIONS: Owns a brand new home having six rooms; there are 10 acres of land around it. They have a horse, 2 cows, 12 hens and 25 chicks. They raise some of their food, particularly meat. They have a radio but no other conveniences. Home is well kept. Fuel is wood which they get by cutting wood for other people and keeping part for their work. Likes to do bags in winter but has to work on farm in summer and doesn't find time then to work on bags. She can string 10,000 bags a week, but does not suffer any ill effects from it. This money naturally raises their income considerably and means a lot to their welfare. Since this money is used for any expenses that come up, it would be direly missed if they weren't allowed to do it.

WAGONER, MRS. BARBARA; married; two children; aged 20 years; resides in Wilkes Co., N. C.

Children: Jacob, aged one year.

Buck, aged 9 - child by husband's first wife.

INCOME: About $20.00 per month. Husband is laborer on government park project in this section. However, this work is to be discontinued in a short while.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a three-room house and about forty acres of land. Most of this land is forest and rocky, only about 1/2-acre being suited for raising crops. Allthe food has to be bought except corn and potatoes. The house is very dirty and untidy. She makes all the clothes except husband's. The children were very dirty and clothes ragged. They own a cow and a few chickens which supply the milk and eggs. No running water, electricity or inside toilet facilities. The water is gotten from the creek. 50¢ a month is paid on burial insurance; the rest is spent on food and necessities. She earns about $8.00 a month stringing bags. She enjoys doing them, and says they are absolutely necessary to maintain the family.

MRS. BROOKS, Wilkes County, N. C., has 8 children, but only 3 live with her, one of whom is married.

INCOME: Husband makes $18 a week at the tannery. She owns a farm of 37 acres which she rents out at time. She can also make about $10.00 a month by stringing bags. Electric bill is $2.50 a month and grocery bill is about $50.00 a month. The rest of their income is used for clothes and payment for various comforts they have bought for their home.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own their home and 2 acres of land. The house has 7 rooms and is well kept and furnished. They also have a radio, an electric refrigerator, and an electric washing machine. They raise a little food, have a cow and a few chickens, and get all their fuel on their place. She does 5000 bags a week and uses money from them for childrens' clothes. When there are no bags to be done, she feels the lack of money badly. She wants to work on bags as much as she can and whenever there are any to do.

JOHNSON, MISS JANIE, aged 40, lives by herself, at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: She occupies a small two-room shack and seven acres of land. Could not determine whether she owned it or was a squatter. The roof leaked very badly and the shack was generally delapidated. She washes clothes and since this the only source of livelihood other than bag stringing, when the bags cannot be obtained she lives with her brother, who cannot afford to support her. She has been stringing bags for about five years to supplement her other work, earning therefrom about $7 a month. Before the death of her mother, who was totally helpless, she strained her back in moving her mother, which badly interferes with her washing and will necessitate her in the future doing more bag stringing.

KEMP, MRS. BESSIE, Hunting Creek, N. C., aged 25, husband 30; three minor children.

INCOME: Husband works in a local furniture factory, receiving $15.00 a week. They have no other income.

HOME CONDITIONS:: They own a new two-room home and 129 acres of land. They have no stock on the place with the exception of a pig. All the fuel for the house is cut from the farm. The family appears to be very much better off than most people in the vicinity. The taxes on the farm amount to $17.00 a year. The family spends about $10.00 a week on groceries. The wife has strung bags for five years and makes about $11 a month. She is not forced to do the work and states that she can get along without it but she rather likes doing it and it enables her and the family to live a little better and to give to the children things which they could not otherwise have. The children look very alive and alert and indicate that they have been well cared for.

COMBS, MRS. C. C., aged 41, husband 58, eight children, all living with family at Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: This family owns an 8-room house and 90 acres of land. They own a cow, 4 calves, 5 hogs, a mule and about 125 chickens. They also have a few hives of bees. The house is fairly new but very poorly kept. In addition, the family owns another farm which they rent for 100 bushels of corn per year. The taxes on both places amount to $60 a year. The family produces most of the food and have very little to sell. The groceries which they are required to buy, as well as food for the chickens, averages about $5 a week. The wife has been stringing bags for five years and used to average about $21.50 a month. Recently she has been sick and has discontinued all work until her recovery.

HUFFMAN, MRS. FRANK, aged 22, husband 32, one infant child, resides at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: The husband either owns, or is a squatter, on a two-room shack and 50 acres of land. The house is very old and has holes in the walls for windows. It is very dirty and poorly furnished. They own two steers, a cow, a hog, and 16 chickens.

INCOME: Husband works for PWA 16 days a month, making $24.00. At the present time he is only working 8 days, as he is putting in his crops. The wife has only been stringing a very short while and is very inefficient. She states she does not mind stringing bags. She averages about $11 a month.

ELLER, MRS. C., aged 41, husband 60; three children, living with family at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: The wife owns a half interest in a three room cottage, which is in fairly good condition, and a small acreage of land. They also own a cow and calf, a steer, two pigs and a dozen hens. The family has a small garden but the wife is unable to assist in the farm work on account of rheumatism.

INCOME: Husband works for PWA sixteen days a month, receiving $24. The family spends about $5 a week for food. Apparently one of the wife's brothers pays the taxes on the home. On the death of the wife's father he left the farm to the wife and her brother. There has been no division of the property. The wife is sick most of the time. In spite of this fact, she has been able to earn an average of abour $11.00 a month from bag stringing and states that the money is essential to their welfare. Nother known type of work can be done by her.

JOHINES, MRS. MAGGIE, aged 46, widow; one child living with her at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: She rents a small 3-room cottage with 38 acres of land. The only other possession is one pig. Her daughter used to work for PWA but has lost her position and is now living with her mother. When the above picture was taken she had a visitor who was included in the picture. Her groceries cost about $6 a week. She pays half of her crops as rent for the home. She is heavily indebted to the local storekeeper, who has been advancing supplies in order that she might eat. She has been stringing bags for about five years and has been averaging about $22 a month. She apparently has no other means of livelihood. She states that the work gives her headaches and that it has hurt her eyes. Conditions under which she does the stringing are very bad. The cottage has poor light in the day and totally inadequate lighting at night.

DANAY, MRS. FAY, aged 24, husband's age 34, two minor children living with them at ReddiesRiver, Wilkes Co., N.C.

INCOME: Wife used to teach school but lost her position some time ago. The entire family lives with the husband's mother and father but neither he nor his father are able to work. The husband's mother receives $10.00 a month old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: They live in a six-room cottage on a 54-acre tract of land, a small portion of which is cultivated. They own two cows, two hogs and a few chickens. They are miserably poor but their home is maintained in the best condition possible under existing circumstances. They produce most of their food and their grocery and feed bill is only $6.00 a month. Taxes are $13 a year. The wife has been stringing bags for about six years and earns about $11 a month. At the present time the bag money is absolutely indispensable as a means of insuring food for the family, as they have been required to purchase food from the local stores of the minimum amount of approximately $6.00 a month.

ELLER, MRS. ANNIE, aged 64; widow; one infant son living, with her, at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Her only income is uncertain, derived entirely from work for other people, principally in their homes.

HOME CONDITIONS: She boards and in the majority of cases she works for the people with whom she boards, paying for her board with her work. When she is at home her grocery bill amounts to about $5.00 a week. This usually is paid by working in the grocery store. She owns ten acres of land and a small two-room shack thereon. Her sole possessions other than the home are a few chickens. She has been stringing bags for about five years supplementing her income derived from other sources. She earns about $7.00 a month from bag stringing. This is the only cash income that she ever has. Some time ago she had measles which affected her eyes and any kind of sewing or needlework, including bag stringing, bothers her eyes at times.

ROYALL, MRS. LULA, aged 19; husband aged 27; two infant children; reside in Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Husband works for WPA, making $24.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Apparently the family owns the home and 35 acres of land but this fact could not be verified. None of the land is cultivated. The house has four rooms, no toilet facilities, and is in a very delapidated condition. The taxes on the property are $2.50 a year. The only other income the family has is derived from stringing bags. The wife is young and has to devote most of her time to the care of the house and children, but in her odd moments she strings bags, deriving therefrom approximately $7.00 a month. The entire income from WPA and from bag stringing is used to buy food.

JENKINS, MRS. LILLIE, aged 32, husband 46, 7 children, all minors and living with family at Reddies River, Wilkes Co.,N.C.

INCOME: Husband works for WPA, receiving $24.00 a month. He has not worked for the past month. They have no income from any other source with the exception of the income derived from string bags, from which she averages about $11.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: It could not be ascertained whether or not the parties own the home shown in the picture but they pay $3.00 a year taxes thereon. The house has three rooms, is very dirty and delapidated. Other than a small amount of furniture, the family owns nothing with the exception of two cows, a steer and 16 chickens. The family is badly in debt for food. The ground which goes with the home produces very little. The total income of the farm, including the stringing of bags is inadequate for the food requirements of the family and if the stringing of bags is discontinued, further relief will be necessary to prevent starvation for the family.

MRS. ROY ANDERSON, Wilkes County, N. C., has 8 children one of whom is in a C.C.C. Camp.

INCOME: Husband works in tannery and gets $18 a week. He has a steady job. The son in the C.C.C. Camp will be through in April. She gets about $3.00 a week stringing bags. Rent is $8 a month. Electric bill is $1.25 a month. Grocery bill is about $10.00 a week. Husband has industrial insurance.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 4 rooms and a garden which produces some of their food, but they have to buy most of it. They have a radio but no other conveniences or comforts. Water comes from a well. House in fair condition. Family is comparatively well off, but any additional expenses would be a great burden. She has been stringing for a long time and can do about 1000 bags a day with her other duties. Enjoys earning the extra money which is used to buy clothes for the children and fuel. She strings whenever it is possible.

MRS. COMBS, Wilkes County, N. C., has 7 children living with her, one of whom is her grandchild. She is 50 years old and her husband is 58.

INCOME: Husband hauls bags for Mr. Godfrey at 10¢ for 5000; his income from this depends entirely on output of bags. He rents some of his land out for a share of the crop. His only cash income is what he makes for hauling bags and what his wife makes stringing. Expenses are very few, since husband owns his home and raises almost all his food. Taxes are $9.00 a year. electric bill is $1.00 a month and telephone bill for 2 phones is 25¢ a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house is in good condition, has 7 rooms and is fairly well furnished. There are 9-3/4 acres of land, 1 horse, 2 cows, 2 hogs, 90 hens, 9 roosters, and 500 chicks. Husband owns a pick-up truck which he uses for hauling bags. He gets his fuel off of his land. This family is considerably better off than the majority of families living in this section. They seem to be more literate and happier. Wife

doesn't have to string bags but wants to earn some extra money. She doesn't mind doing it at all and does it when her other duties tire her. She earns about $10.00 a month if she hasn't got much else to do.

SOOTS, MRS. R. F., married; seven children living with her; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

INCOME: Husband is a carpenter, works pretty steadily, and earns on an average of $12 a week. One of their daughters makes $11 a week in the hosiery mill and helps out with expenses. Mrs. Soots sometimes makes as much as $3.75 a week stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: Owns home of four rooms and 1½ acres of land. Husband is his own boss. They have one cow and a few chickens; water is supplied by a well. They have a radio and the house is in good condition. Wood for fuel is obtained on their land. Electric bill is $1.25 a month. It takes everything they make to live; they hardly ever have any extra money. She has been stringing bags for eight years, and she really gets pleasure from the satisfaction of doing this work. It occupies her time to good advantage. She is able to do 7,500 bags a week if they are available. The money earned from this work is used for general expenses.

ANDERSON, MRS. COY, married and has seven small children who live with her; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

INCOME: Husband gets $30.00 a month for working in an orchard belonging to a Mr. Moorehouse. They are on relief but won't admit it. Mr. Moorehouse owns place and husband works out rent. Electric bill is about $1.00 a month. Most of their food is bought and costs around $5.00 a week. There are no other expenses except a little for clothes.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house is in poor condition and has only three rooms. They have a hog and a few chickens which supply their meat needs. She likes to string bags and does 5,000 a week when she can get them. This doesn't upset her routine at all, and provides most of the money for their food. It it a great comfort to her to be able to do bags and to make money.

MRS. ELIZA SMITH, age 65 years, 2 children and five grandchildren; reside in Wilkes Co., N. C.

CHILDREN: Vernice 38 years

Ruby Cox 22 years (Married-husband unemployed and living with them)

Grandchildren:

Pauline	19 yrs.
Hazel	17 yrs.
Roy	9 yrs.
Jerry	4 yrs.
Margurite	15 months
Ruth	13 months

INCOME: None

HOME CONDITIONS: Own a three room house and 75 acres of land. Only 15 acres of this is fit for cultivation. Raise corn and potatoes and other vegetables necessary. However, the land is very poor and she states that it will be necessary to buy additional corn and potatoes at the market. Since the bags have stopped they have not been able to buy any clothes. They had to sell all their chickens except about 13 a few weeks ago in order to buy material for clothes. Her husband is too aged to do any work and Ruby's

husband is in too poor health to hold down a job. Rheumatism keeps him in bed most of the time. Pauline has had tonsil trouble for about a year but they cannot afford medical attention for either of the two. Vernice and Ruby have tried to locate work but have been unable to do so. They all enjoy stringing the bags and earn around $10 or $12.00 a month at it. The house is scantily furnished but is kept very clean and orderly. They are able to just exist when they have the bags and since they have stopped coming in it has been necessary for them to go in debt in order to have enough to eat.

BELL, MRS. PEARL, aged 42; married; resides in North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Children: Gladys, aged 19.
Claude, aged 18.
Clyde, aged 14.
Leola, aged 12.
Walter, aged 10.
J. C., aged 7.
Madylin, aged 5.
Willis Rose, aged 5.

INCOME: Gladys works on N.Y.A. work at school, earning $14.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a two-room house and forty acres of land, 7 acres being tended, the rest is in a run down condition and not fit for cultivation. Mr. Bell states that more money will be needed if the seven acres are to be kept in shape. The house was in a very delapidated state. Mrs. Bell was ill with flu. The room was very cold, since several boards of the wall were out, causing an awful draft. The husband is in ill health, being ruptured and suffering from rheumatism. He formerly worked on WPA but was discharged on account of his health. They

have been unable to run the home on their daughter's income and have found it necessary to go in debt. They owe the hospital $65, grocery store $18, and have other small debts amounting to about $30. Since Mr. Bell will be unable to do any other work off the farm, the bag money will be absolutely necessary in order that the family be fed and clothed.

NELSON, MRS. SUSAN, aged 60; married, North Wilkesboro, N. C.
Children: Betty, Johnson, Nellie, Junior, all of the ages are unknown.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a two-room home, thirty acres of land, only 5 of which is used for cultivation of crops. The rest is wasteland. The house is well constructed but practically empty inside and very dirty. Their stock stock consist of one cow and a few chickens. The income earned from bags, amounting to about $8.00 a month, all goes for food and clothes. Since the bags have been discontinued temporarily, they have not been able to buy or make any clothes and have had to go in debt for food. The children were very dirty, poorly clad and apparently mentally incapable of holding a job. The five acres of land being used for cultivation is in a very run-down condition and Mr. Nelson states that it will be impossible to raise crops on it another year unless money can be secured to put it in shape. The family is in a desperate condition and will not be able to get along without the bag income.

HOLSBROOK, MRS. BESSIE, aged 37; married; resides in North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Children: Shirley, aged 17.
Edna, aged 14.
Graham, aged 13.
Walter, aged 12.
Cora Bell, aged 3.

INCOME: Husband is a ranger in the new Government National Park and earns $52.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a four-room house and 90 acres of land. Fifteen acres is being tended and one-third of the produce is paid as rent. The home is nicely built, fairly well furnished and is kept very clean and neat. There is no electricity, running water or any such necessary facilities. The money earned from bags which amounts to around $10 a month is spent on food and clothes. They own two cows and around 30 chickens which keep them supplied with milk and eggs. About $300 is owed for hospital bills. She states that the bags are not absolutely necessary but this income is very helpful in paying of past due hospital bill.

CRABBE, MRS. FLOSS, widow, aged 48, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children; DeWitt, aged 23.

Oland, aged 18.

Raymond, aged 8.

Jack, aged 14.

William, aged 9.

INCOME: She receives $7.00 per month from the Government for dependent children.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a four-room house and 56 acres of land, only ten acres being cultivated. The rest of the land is timber and wasteland and not fit for cultivation. They own two cows and about 30 chickens, which supply them with milk and eggs. The two eldest boys are unable to work since they have to take care of all the farming. Jack is in very poor health but Mrs. Crabbe does not feel that she is able to afford the necessary medical attention. All of the money goes for food which she thinks is very insufficient within needs. Since the bags have been temporarily discontinued it has been necessary for them to go in debt with the grocery store, and they have not been able to spend anything on clothes. She

states that it will be necessary for her to have other relief if the bags are taken away, it being impossible to run the family on $7.00 a month. She has been stringing bags for around five years and would feel lost without them.

MRS. ZORA JARVIS, Wilkes County, N. C., has 9 children living with her.

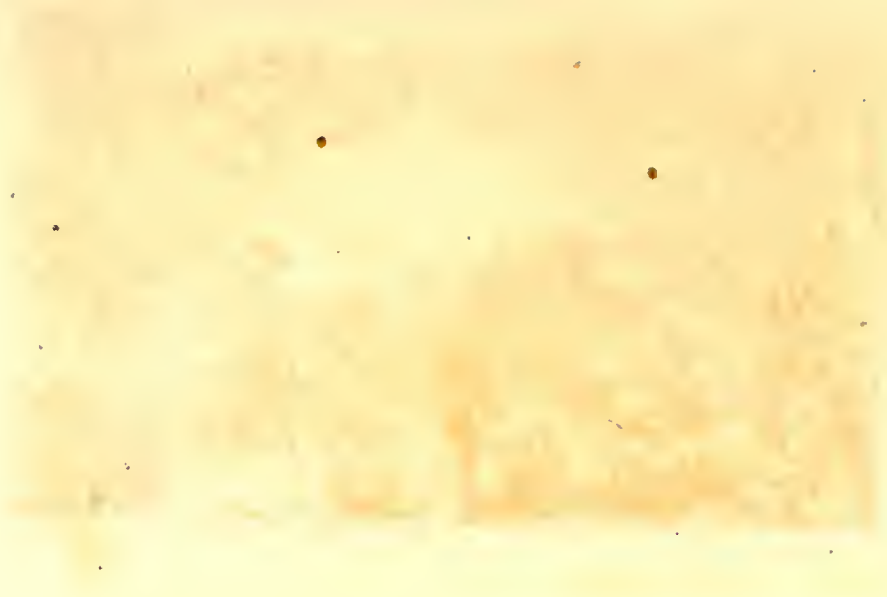
INCOME: Husband has a steady job at the tannery and makes $18 a week. She can make about $10.00 a month on bags when there are any to string. They make a little money off of chickens. They are gradually buying their farm. Electric bill is $2.60 a month. They burned $26 worth of coal this winter for heating. Wood for cooking costs about $4 a month. Food costs about $10.00 a week. After all expenses are paid there is very little money left.

HOME CONDITIONS: They live in a nice home having 7 rooms. There are 2 acres of land on which they raise a good deal of their food. They own a few hens, 300 chicks, 1 pig, a radio, an electric refrigerator, and are considering buying a horse. This family is well off in comparison to other families in this section.

Stringing: Wife is 52 and can't remember when she didn't string bags. In the winter she strings about 5000 bags a week, but has to work on the farm in the summer and can't give much of her time to bag stringing. Just does this work in order to have a little cash on hand. She is not affected in any way by this work.

JOHNSON, MRS. SAM, aged 49, husband 67; two children living with family in Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N. C.

HOME CONDITIONS: The family either owns or leases a six-room cottage and 200 acres of land. It is in good condition and the family is generally better off than their income would indicate. They own a car and a small truck. They also own two cows, two pigs, and quite a number of chickens. They raise all the food they use and have some left over crops for sale. They spend about $3 a week for things that they do not raise. Their taxes amount to $18 a year. In addition thereto, the wife owns a farm, taxes on which are $12 a year, but she rents this for a very small sum, sufficient in amount to pay the taxes and repairs. She has been stringing bags for 27 years, averaging therefrom about $7.00 a month. Her present condition is such that she has about determined to discontinue entirely the stringing of bags. In the past, however, the bag stringing has been instrumental in helping her secure a lot of the things which today makes it possible for her to ease up on her work.



MRS. MARY SHEPARD, aged 61, married and has 2 children living with her. Husband is 68. They resides at Reddies River, N.C.

INCOME: Husband is unemployed but one son works for P.W.A. and helps them out. Although the husband farms, he can only raise a few of their needs.

EXPENSES: Taxes are $5. They spend everything they make on food and are still in debt to the store.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 4 rooms and there are 35 acres of land. He owns a cow, a mule, 2 pigs, and 7 hens. He gets his wood from his own land. She is incapable of working on the farm and likes to string bags to occupy her time. She makes $11 a month doing this work.

MRS. LEACEY ROYAL, aged 27, married and has 4 children.

Husband is 29. They reside at Reddies River, N. C.

INCOME: Husband works on P.W.A. sixteen days a month and gets $24. They have no other income.

EXPENSES: They use everything they make for food. Taxes are $2.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 2 rooms and there are 35 acres of land. He owns a cow and 2 steers. The house is like all the rest in this section. They own a sewing machine and a new stove. She has been stringing bags for about 5 years and makes about $7.50 a month. This work sometimes hurts her eyes but she likes to make this money which she needs very much.

MRS. OSCAR WINGLER, aged 29, married and has five children.

Husband is 35. They resides at Peddies River, Wilkes Co., N.C.

INCOME: Husband works 16 days a month for P.W.A. at $24 a month; however, he can only go to work when he can find a ride. They have no other income.

EXPENSES: They spend $13 a week for food and groceries.

They owe the dentist $5 for pulling ten of wife's teeth.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has three rooms, and they rent land from her mother to farm. They own 1 cow, 3 pigs and about 10 chickens. The house is falling apart and they can't afford to repair it. She makes $2.50 a week by stringing bags. She has been unable to do other work for quite a while on account of sickness.

MRS. RUDY SHEPARD, 64, married and has 8 children but only one of them lives with her. Husband is 68. Lives at Reddis River, N.C.

INCOME: Husband owns small store and is an agent for issuing bags to stringers. He makes enough from the store to live on. His bag agency doubles his income from the store.

EXPENSES: They get all their food from the store, therefore, they have very few expenses.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a house with 3 rooms and 65 acres of land. Husband has high blood pressure and cannot work on the farm. His wife is not able to work either. They own one cow, a horse, about a dozen chickens and a hog. House is in bad shape and has no conveniences. She can string about 500 bags a day. This is the only work of any kind that she can do. The money she makes from this keeps them from going in debt. She does not feel contented unless she can do this work.

MRS. J. C. SHEPARD, 24, married and has three children. Her husband is 30. Resides at Reddis River, N. C.

INCOME: Husband works for P.W.A. 16 days a month for $24. He also owns a store that issues bags and farms a little. Profit on the store is about $20 a month, half of which comes from bags.

EXPENSES: Owes $160 on goods in his store. His taxes are about $21 a year, and he has no other expenses because he gets all his supplies from the store.

HOME CONDITIONS: They live in the back of the store, which is new. They own 30 acres of land but only farm 6 acres. He gets his wood on his place. He owns a small truck, a cow, 2 calves, one hog, and a few chickens. His bag agency brings business to his store because he pays for stringing with goods from the store. He family does not do much stringing for themselves.

JOHNSON, MRS. FREELAND, married and has 6 children all of whom live with her. Her age is 57 and her husband's age 59. Reside at Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N.C.

INCOME: Husband farms but can only raise of few of their own needs. They have no other apparent income. Groceries cost $3 a week and taxes are $11 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 5 rooms and there are 60 acres of land. They own 2 cows, 3 pigs, 45 chickens and a horse. Although their house is in poor condition they seem to have enough to live on. They have been stringing for 5 years and make $20.00 a month. Three of her daughters help her. They use this money to buy all their clothes. They enjoy stringing bags.

MRS. FIDELL SHEPARD, married and has 3 children. Reddis River, N.C.

INCOME: Husband works for P.W.A. 16 days a month for $24. He has to spend $4 of his salary to pay for his transportation to work.

EXPENSES: Spends all he makes on food and owes the doctor about $12. He also owes money to his father who runs a store. They cannot afford anything for clothes.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has three rooms and there is an acre of land around it. They raise a little of their food and they get their wood from their father's land. The house is new but is not well kept. They have been in debt for a long time and not able to get ahead. They own a cow, pig, 10 chickens. She can string 500 bags a day. They would have a hard time getting along without this money.

MISS JETTIE BROOKS lives with her mother, sister, and brother and is 34 years of age. Resides at Hunting Creek, N.C.

INCOME: Her mother gets $20 a month insurance for her son who was killed. They have no other income, but her mother has quite a bit of money in the bank.

EXPENSES: Their grocery bill is $5 a week, and their taxes are $17 a year. They rent out some of their land but the income from this is very small.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 7 rooms and there are 95 acres of land. Her mother owns 2 farms, which she rents out and this allows them to live better than others in this section. Although they can raise a little on their land, the house is in very good condition. They have a few chickens and 2 pigs.

STRINGING: Although she doesn't have to string bags, she has been doing this work for 5 years and makes $11 a week. She is unable to do any other kind of work because of a recent operation which left her very weak. Although this work hurts her eyes, she likes to do it to use up her spare time.

MRS. CORA WINGLER, aged 52, married and has 4 children living with her. Husband is 57. Resides at Reddies River, N.C.

INCOME: Husband works for P.W.A. sixteen days a month at $24 a month.

EXPENSES: He pays $4 a month to ride to work, taxes are $2 a year, grocery bill is about $18 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has three rooms and there are 35 acres of land. The house is in better condition than others in this section. He owns 1 cow, 2 steers, 1 pig, and 14 chickens. She makes about $1.75 a week stringing bags. They could not get along without this money. It does not bother her at all to do this work.

MISS E. L. HAYES, aged 36, lives with her father, aged 82. Resides at Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: She is crippled and can do no work, and her father can only farm a little. Their only income is rent from some of their land.

EXPENSES: Food costs them about $3.50 a week. Taxes are $6 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 4 rooms and there are 60 acres of land. They own a cow, 2 pigs, and a few chickens. They are able to live comfortably. Although their income is small, their expenses are few, and they do not have to string bags for their living. She has been stringing for 5 years and only makes $1.75 a week as she strings very little. This work has never bothered her and gives her a small income of her own.

HAMBY, MRS. H. M., married and has seven children but only five of them live with her. Mrs. Hamby 46 years old and husband 83. Reside at Reddies River, N.C.

INCOME: Wife washes clothes for other people and makes a little money and their son gives them $15.00 a month. They also make a little money by selling chickens and eggs. They have no other income. They spend $15.00 a month for groceries and $8.00 a year for taxes.

HOME CONDITIONS: They have 18 acres of land and the house has four rooms. The house is in good condition but is poorly furnished. They can only raise a little in their garden. She makes about $11.00 a month by stringing bags, and they couldn't get along without this money. He eyes are very weak but it doesn't bother her to string bags.

STAYLEY, MRS. B. F., married and has 14 children but all of them are away from home. Her age is 65; her husband's age is 69. Reside at Reddis River, N.C.

INCOME: Husband makes all his money by farming and by lending money. They have one son who is a school teacher and who stays with them when school is out, but he only pays his board.

HOME CONDITIONS: They raise practically all their needs and only have to buy things occasionally. Wife just borrowed $1400.00 on her home. They own 200 acres of land and the house has 8 rooms. They also have 2 steer, 2 cows and a calf, 35 chickens and 450 chicks. They own a new car. She just strings bags for a past time and makes $10.00 a month and it doesn't bother her at all to string.

MRS. EASON, Wilkes County, N. C., widow, lives with son who is married, and has 3 children.

INCOME: Son has steady job with a glass factory and makes between $15 and $20 a week. This is the family's only income except what she makes stringing bags. Rent is $10.00 and electricity $1.50 a month. Coal for the past winter was $12 and wood was about $32. Although they raise a little food, their grocery bill is nearly $50 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They have a nice house, well furnished and well kept. A radio and electricity are their only modern conveniences. Since they don't have a well they must get water from their neighbor's well. They own 1 cow but no other animals or fowls. This family is well fixed in comparison to their neighbors. Mrs. Eason is the only one in the family who strings and she only does it to earn extra money and to occupy her time. She earns about $22.00 a month but thinks higher prices should be paid for work.

MRS. W. H. BRYANT, Wilkes County, N. C., has 9 children, one of whom is married and also has 1 child and lives with her.

INCOME: Husband works fairly steadily at the furniture factory for $10 to $15 a week. Only other income is $2.50 a week for stringing bags when there are bags to string. Rent is $4 a month. Wood for cooking costs $1.50 a week. Coal for heating the house costs about $14 during the past winter. Grocery bill is about $10 a week if they have that much money.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 3 rooms in poor shape. The house is very dirty, and there is very little furniture. There are 1½ acres of land on which they raise some of their food. There are also 2 pigs. There are no comforts or conveniences in the house. She has been stringing for about 30 years and is supposed to be very good at it. She earns about $10.00 per month working in idle hours. The money is greatly needed and is used for any expenses that arise. She says she becomes nervous if she strings bags steadily all day, but she hates to be without some to do when she feels like it.

MRS. E. M. ADAMS, has had eight children, but only two of them live with her. She is 67 years old and her husband is 66. They live at North Wilkesboro, N. C.

INCOME: Husband works for the P.W.A. for $11.00 per week, but his job is liable to be taken away from him at any time. Wife makes about $10.00 a month from stringing bags. The rent is $15.00 a month and water and electricity, food and clothing use up the rest of the income to such an extent that they can't afford an operation for their son who has cataracts in both eyes.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a flat of six rooms. It is fairly well furnished and well kept. They have running water, toilet facilities and two radios. The flat is heated by coal stoves. Wife has been doing bags for a long time and does 5,000 a week, as well as all of her house work. This work doesn't affect her physically or mentally in any way.

MRS. WATTS, Wilkes County, N. C., widow, five children, but only one lives with her, who is 38 years old.

INCOME: Daughter works in hose mill for $11 a week, but it is rumored that she will be laid off. Daughter has a son who lives with her; he is 20 and has a steady job in a grocery store at between $8 and $10 a week. He helps them out a little with expenses, but spends most of his salary on himself. Income from bags is about $2.50 a week when there are bags to string. Rent is $6.00 a month. Electricity is $2 a month. Water is $1.00 a month. They have to buy about two loads of wood at $1.75 a load, a week, in the winter. They money that is left is used for food and clothes. Income, including money for stringing bags is sufficient for their present needs. Any extra expense or the loss of part of their income would work a hardship on them. They are healthy and rarely have to pay doctor's bills.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has four bare rooms which are kept very nicely. Ever thing is clean. There are no inside toilet facilities, and their water comes from a spigot out in the yard. The rooms are heated by fireplaces and wood stoves. The cooking is done on wood stove. She

does most of the housework herself, but her daughter helps when she comes home from work. Her husband has been dead for 12 years and she has practically raised her family with money she gets for stringing. She is nervous by nature, but stringing composes her and "puts her mind at ease." She can do 5,000 bags a week completely together with her domestic work. The money she gets for this is used for any expenses that might arise. She couldn't work in a factory because of home duties.

MRS. R. A. RASH, Wilkes County, N. C., married twice and has no children.

INCOME: Husband has a steady job with the furniture factory at $11 a week. There is no other income except $1.75 a week from bags when she can get them. There is no rent since they own their hom and 8 acres of land. Electric bill is $175.00 a month. They use 2 tons of coal a winter at $4.00 for heat, and a load of wood a month at $15.0 for cooking. They raise most of their groceries and meat; only have to buy coffee, flour, sugar and feed for stock, which can be almost entirely paid for with money earned from stringing.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has three rooms well furnished and kept. They have a radio and an electric refrigerator. They also have a cow, a calf, a hog and 16 chickens. They raise garden vegetables and a lot of corn. Husband has been working for 8 months and they seem to be well off. There is a well for water. She been working on bags for 32 years. She likes it although she has rheumatism in her arms, and it tires her to do it steadily. She can do 500 baga a day. She doesn't like to be without them. Couldn't possibly work in a factory.

JOHNSON, MISS GRACE, lives with her father and mother and 6 brothers and sisters. She is 28 years old. They reside at Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: They raise practicall all their needs and are able to sell some of their crops. She says that they have no other income. Groceries cost $3.50 a week including feed for the cattle. The taxes are $18.00 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has seven rooms and there are 150 acres of land. They have 2 cars, a truck, 3 cows, 2 mules, 5 pigs and some chickens. The house is in good condition and the land is richer than other land in this section. This family is quite well off in comparison to their neighbors. She has been stringing for 5 years and makes about $10.00 or $11.00 a month. She only does this work to make a little extra money for herself. She likes it and it has never affected her health.

REID, MRS. P. M., widow, and has 4 children and one grandchild living with her. She is 52 years old. They live at Hunting Creek, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: She owns a store and makes enough from this to live on. They have a small garden but get most of their food from the store. Their rent is $100.00 a year. She owns a mill and 3 other farms. The rent from the mill is enough to pay her rent and the taxes on the three other places.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 4 rooms and is like the rest of the places in this section. They own a cow, 2 pigs and a few chickens. She has been stringing for about 4 years and makes between $10.00 and $20.00 a month. She doesn't have to do this work but likes to make a little cash to be used as spending money.

TAYLOR, MRS. DILLARD, has five children, but only 3 of them live with her. She is 40 years old and her husband is 53. They reside at Reddies River, N. C.

INCOME: Husband works for a furniture factory at $11 a week. They have no other income. Taxes are $8.00 a year, owe doctor $165.00, they spend about $10.00 a week on groceries.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own 30 acres of land and the house has 5 rooms. They have a cow, 2 hogs and a dozen chickens. They raise very little on their farm. The son owns a car. The house is new and well furnished and is well kept. She has been stringing for five years and make about $20.00 a month. She likes to string bags and does it very well.

STAYLEY, MRS. SAMUEL, has five children living at home.

She is 83 years old and her husband is 84. They reside at Reddies River, Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: The whole family works on the farm and they make just enough to live on. They income from farming is enough to buy all their needs. Taxes are $14.00 a year. Their grocery bill is $3.00 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 3 rooms and there are 92 acres of land. They own a horse, 2 cows, 2 hogs, and quite a few chickens. The house is in pretty good condition. The old man is crippled but all the rest of the family are able to work on the farm. They have been stringing bags for 5 years and make about $20.00 a month. This is about the only cash income that they have and they need it right badly to buy things that they can't raise.

MRS. BET RASH, Wilkes County, N. C., 60, widow with 3 children living with her. One, a girl of 22, is married to a man 70. They all live together. Children are between 18 and 23.

INCOME: Daughter's husband gets $1 a day working on another man's farm when he is able. He gets $10 a month old age pension. Earns $2.50 a week on bags is there are any to string. They are also on relief but won't admit it.

EXPENSES: Owns home, but taxes are about $4 a year. When they have the money, they spend $5 a week on groceries, their expenses are minimum, but they cannot pay their back taxes.

HOME CONDITIONS: There is ½ acre of land and the house has only 2 rooms. There are absolutely no conveniences whatsoever. They own no animals or fowl of any sort. Water comes from a spring. They are able to grow a little to eat but have to buy most of their food. The house and grounds are in terrible condition and are not kept up at all. The people are degraded and live in a degraded state. Despite the condition and attitude of these people, they are good stringers and do 5000 bags a week. The money they get for this work constitutes a large percentage of their total income, and if it was taken away from

them, it would leave them with next to nothing. They find this work easy and harmless.

MRS. ROXY TEDDER, Wilkes County, N. C., married and has 6 young children. Both husband and wife are in their thirties.

INCOME: The only actual cash income besides a little relief, which they do not admit, is money made by stringing bags. A Dr. Herbert owns the farm and the husband works out the rent in his orchard.

EXPENSES: The only expenses are for food that they can't raise and clothes. The family is almost self-sufficient. They are of the economic status of "share-croppers".

HOME CONDITIONS: Although they have no modern conveniences or comforts and just live simply and frugally, they are not in debt, and their needs are satisfied. The house and farm are in good condition, and they raise most of their food. Water is obtained at a spring and the wood they use for fuel is taken off the land. The house is small but there is enough room. They own 2 horses, 1 hog and 10 hens. The only actual cash this family gets is bag money. She can do 5000 a week with her housework and without harming herself in any way. This money buys almost everything that they have to pay cash for. She couldn't possibly string bags anywhere but in her home.

MRS. SARAH CALL and MRS. OAKLEY, Wilkes Co., N. C., are both widows. Mrs. Call and Mrs. L. L. Oakley are Mrs. Oakley's daughter and daughter-in-law respectively. Mrs. Call has 2 children living with her. Mrs. Call is 45 and her mother 82.

INCOME: The only other income they have besides the money from stringing bags is a little they get by renting out the land for other people to farm. The latter is very unprofitable.

EXPENSES: Taxes are about $6 a year, but last year's haven't been paid. They don't know what they spend on food, but it takes all they have and they owe some besides. They very rarely buy clothes or anything else but food.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 5 rooms and 34 acres of land. These 2 widows are practically destitute; therefore, their house is in about the same condition as the rest of the people around who are in the same situation. They have to buy most of their food and have no money for it, so they go in debt and remain there. If it wasn't for the money they make stringing bags, they would be much worse off, if possible. They get their

fuel off of their land, and they own a cow and a few chickens. They have been string as long as they can remember, and Mrs. Oakley is still able to string at her age. They can do 5000 a week; it doesn't tire them at all since they mix it with their other work.

MRS. L. L. OAKLEY, 46, Wilkes Co., N. C., married and has 4 children. Husband is 50.

INCOME: The only cash income this family has is from bags, and since there have been no bags in this section since November, they are in bad shape and owe a lot of money. The husband farms some but doesn't make anything out of it.

EXPENSES: About the only expenses are $10 or $15 a month for food a and about $1.50 a year taxes. If they happen to have a lot of bags to string and there is a little extra money, it is all used for clothes. Fuel costs nothing because he gets a cord of wood for cutting two for another man.

HOME CONDITIONS: Naturally this family lives in poverty since they make so little money. Their home has 2 rooms and an acre of land around it, on which they raise a few of their needs. They get water from a spring and have no conveniences whatsoever. The furniture consists of only beds, chairds and tables and is in poor condition. The house is likewise in poor shape and no attempt is being made to improve it. She has been

stringing bags since they came to this part of the country.

With some help she can do completely 10,000 bags a week, which means $5. This is their only means of making money. She doesnot mind stringing at all but wouldn't like to do it steadily all day.

MRS. BILL ANDERSON, 64, married and has one daughter of her own and a daughter of her husband's first wife lives with them. Husband is 62. Lives in Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Husband gets $35 a month pension as a Spanish War Veteran.

EXPENSE: Taxes are $4 a year. Food costs about $10 a month. Electricity costs $1 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Owns 12 acres of land, a mule, 2 cows, 2 hogs, and about a dozen hens. They own their own wood. Their house is in pretty good shape, is well furnished, and is well kept. They have no conveniences except an electric iron. Their water comes from a well. They still owe money on their house. She can string about 2500 bags a week. She does not absolutely need the money she makes from bags. She is not at all affected by this work.

MRS. EULAH SAUNDERS, 28, married and has 4 children living with her. Husband is 33. Lives in Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Husband works about 3 days a week at the foundry and makes 30¢ an hour. They have no other income except money from stringing bags.

EXPENSES: They own their home but haven't paid for it. Their grocery bill is about $25 a month. Taxes are $6 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own 16 acres of land. They just raise a little food to eat. They have their own wood. House is in good condition and is fairly well furnished. House has 4 rooms and is well kept. Two of the children have scarlet fever. She has been stringing bags for about 5 years and strings about 5000 a week. It does not bother her in any way to do this work. She could get along without this money but it helps to pay the debt on the home.

PARKER, MRS. J. L., married and has two children; her age 39; husband's age 49; 1 child lives with her and the other lives with her grandmother. Reside at Hunting Creek, N.

INCOME: Husband has T. B. and is not able to work regularly. He has a car and is able to work a few days a week as a salesman. He can only make $4.00 a week at this job. They are on relief and she has to stay with her sister part of the time in order to live. They have to spend $5.00 a week on groceries and $1.50 a year for taxes.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 3 rooms and there is only 1 acre of land. The house is in very poor condition and is very dirty and poorly kept. The place belongs to his mother and she lets them live there for nothing. This family is destitute and would be unable to exist at all if it wasn't for bags. She has been stringing for 4 years but only makes $7.00 or $8.00 a month because she has so much work to do around the home.

ANDERSON, MRS. PEARL, married and has three grandchildren living with her. She is 44 years old and her husband is 57. Reside at Hunting Creek, N. C.

INCOME: They raise all their food and enough to sell a little. They have no other income. Groceries and feed cost about $5.00 a week. Taxes are about $11.00 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 4 rooms and there are 100 acres of land. They own a cow, 2 hogs, 1 steer, and 30 hens. They have their own wood. This family is fairly well off but although their house is in good condition it is not well kept. She has been stringing about 35 years and makes $5.00 a week. She has been sick a lot but her doctor said she could keep on stringing bags. She uses the money she makes for her personal needs and she strings bags as much as possible in order to make this money.

BOWERS, MRS. FANNIE, aged 43; widow, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Glenn, aged 27,
Edgar, aged 14.
Raye, aged 13.
Earl, aged 12.
June, aged 7.

INCOME: She receives $12.00 a month from the government for dependent children.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a three-room house, and forty acres of land, ten acres being tended. Mrs. Bowers is in poor health and states that she should have a doctor but cannot possibly afford it. All the money earned on bags and that received from the State is spent on food and clothes. The bag money amounts to about $10.00 a month. Since they have been discontinued temporarily she has had to go in debt in order to buy food. They have no stock at all. The house is kept very neat and clean, but it is very scantily furnished. Mrs. Bowers enjoys doing this work and states that she does not know what they will do if the bags are taken away.

MRS. LELI[illegible]

North Carolina, has three children whose names are

Rosemary	8 years
Kelly	5 years
Betty	2 years

INCOME: The husband works on WPA work making $12.80 a month. He works only two weeks out of the month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a 2-room shack and one acre of land. They raise corn, potatoes and other garden vegetables which takes care of about ½ of the food consumed by the family. All of the husband's income is spent on food. Mrs. Adams was sick in bed with flu and needed a doctor but said she could not afford one. She states that the money she earns from bags clothes herself and the children and helps buy food. This income amounts to about $5 a month. The children were clean but wore rather ragged clothes. The house was very clean but barely furnished. They own a cow and a few chickens, but they do not give enough milk and eggs to supply the family needs. Mrs. Adams is in rather poor health and is confined to the house a good deal of the time. She finds that bags help keep her mind occupied and does not interfere with her housework or children.

WAGONER, MRS. ELLA, aged 50; married; two children; resides in Wilkes Co., N. C.

Children: Stalley, aged 12, in school.

Rolley, aged 18, at home.

INCOME: Husband works on government park project, and earns about $20.00 per month. The work is only temporary.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own three-room house and about a half-acre of land. They have been living in a one-room shack but the husband has just completed the new house which he built from wood cut in the forest. Very poorly constructed. Raises beans, onions, potatoes and corn in the garden. Other food is bought and amounts to about $15.00 a month. One of the children is in very bad health, having Bright's disease, and needs frequest medical attention and medicing, but if the bags are stopped they will not be able to afford it. She walks about four miles to get the bags. Has been doing them all her life and enjoys it. Earns about $6.00 a month at it and it all goes for medicine,material for clothes, and food. Husband states he will have to go in debt if the bags are taken away from them. His work is only temporary. No electricity, running water or inside toilet facilities. Walks about 1/4 mile for spring water.

BILLINGS, MRS. WINNIE, aged 42, married, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Oakie Lee, aged 16, (infantile paralysis).
Wallace, aged 15.
Lawrence, aged 14.
Ida Lee, aged 12.
Virginia, aged 9.
Maiden, aged 7.
Verne, aged 6.
Betty Anne, aged 3.

INCOME: Husband works on WPA road work, earning $12.80 a month. He works only two weeks out of the month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a two-room shack and eight acres of land which they tend, paying one-third of the crop to its owner. Their stock consists of two cows and a few chickens but this does not supply them with the milk and eggs needed. She earns about $6.00 a month from stringing bags. All this is spent on food and clothes. They had to go in debt in order to buy the necessary food for the children. She has been stringing bags for years and finds the work very enjoyable as well as necessary in order that the children be fed and clothed.

HOLSBROOK, MRS. ETHEL, aged 33; married, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Mozelle, aged 16.

Estelle, aged 15.

Effie, aged 10.

Adia, aged 5.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: The husband has been out of work for over a year and being in poor health it is not probable that he can hold down a job. They have no personal possessions or property. They rent a four-room house which is kept spotlessly clean. They also rent four acres of land which they tend, giving one-third of its produce to its owner. The husband and one of the children, Mozelle, who has heart trouble, should have medical attention but it cannot be afforded. The girl's tonsils have been giving her trouble for around a year but an operation cannot be afforded. The money made from stringing bags all goes for food, which is still not sufficient for their needs. Since the bags have been discontinued temporarily they have had to go in debt at the grocery store. They are unable to buy clothes for the

children. She states that she earns as much as $25 a month on the bags which does not interfere with her housework and finds them very enjoyable as a spare time job. This income is absolutely necessary.

ELLIS, MRS. ; widow; aged 57; husband died six years age; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Rufus, aged 23, at home, unemployed.

Claude, aged 20; works government park project at $20.00 per month.

Noah, aged 10, in school.

Yvonne, aged 17, at home.

Minnie, aged 14, at home.

Ted, aged 11, at home.

INCOME: Claude works on the government park project at $20.00 per month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Owns four-room house and fifty acres of land, ten acres of which is cultivated. They raise a little over half of what they consume, the rest being bought. They own two cows and some chickens, which supply the milk and eggs. The house is rather neat inside but is a very substantially built structure. Practically no furnishings at all. The children were clean and neatly dressed, as was the mother. She is very sickly, being confined most of the time to the house. She has been re-

ceiving medical attention for the past five years and has been paying for it with the money she earns from stringing bags. It will not be possible for them to eat and keep the farm going if the bags are discontinued. Bag stringing brings in about $12.00 per month. She says the bags keep her mind occupied when she has to stay in the house and she feels lost without them. She has been doing them for about twenty-five years.

WYATT, MISS CARRIE; single, lives with sister; age 20 years; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: Mother dead ten years and father about three months, leaving her and a sister with fifteen-months old baby. They have a two-room house and a small patch of ground which is used as a garden. The house is very badly constructed, the walls being only boards nailed to the upright rafters and having many wide cracks in them, which makes it very hard to keep warm in winter. The only furniture is two beds, a couple of chairs, a small table and dresser. Her sister's husband has left with nothing. They both do the gardening and supply themselves with vegetables. They have no electricity, running water or inside toilet facilities. Cooking is done by wood stove, as is the heating. All the wood is gathered from the forests. Water is gotten from the creek. She earns about $10.00 a month on bags and it all goes for food and personal necessities, clothes being made at home

out of bag cloth and other which is given her. She and her sister say they enjoy sitting down after the housework is done and stringing the bags. If the bags are taken away they will go hundry, she says, because she has been unable to find work of any kind.

BROWN, MISS MAY; aged 30; single;lives with mother and father; father aged 60; resides in Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Father receives $7.00 per month on his old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: Her mother is in very poor health and has been sick in bed for five months. Doctor's care and medicine is needed but it is impossible for her to receive this attention since the bags have been discontinued. Income from these bags amount to about $2.00 a month. The house and land they occupy is "rented" from its owner. No money is paid in rent, but the one acre of land yields some corn and potatoes and other crops which is grown and taken care of by Miss Brown. About one-third of this crop goes to the owner of the land. This constitutes the rent. The balance of the crops are used by the family for food. However, over one-half of the food has to be bought. She states that all of pension money is spent on food and she still thinks it insufficient for their needs. The house consists of only one room, very crowded and untidy. Mother and father are both confined to this room and are neither able to do any work. No inside toilet facilities, no running water, no electricity. All clothes are made

made at home. Since bags have been stopped, they hardly exist. The storekeeper had to give them flour and other necessities in order that they might have food.

It will be impossible for this family to exist if the bags are taken away, because Miss Brown cannot leave her mother and father for work on the outside. Has been stringing bags for about fifteen years and really enjoys doing them.

PULLMAN, MRS. KATE, aged 54, married; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children; Ray, aged 18.

Walter, aged 13, in school.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: Mrs. Pullman owns a three-room house and one and one-half acres of land, one-half of it being tended. The rest is in a run down condition and she hasn't the money to improve it. She raises corn, potatoes and garden vegetables. She earns about $14 a month by stringing bags, all of which is spent for food and clothes. Her daughter has tried to find work but has been unable to do so and her husband has to stay home to tend the field. The house is very old and delapidated but the inside is kept very neat and clean. They have no stock which will help them with their food. She states that if the bags are taken away it will be necessary to find other means for relief.

WOOD, MRS. PHOEBE; aged 38; married, seven children; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Dorothy, aged 16.
Henry, aged 14.
Rosalie, aged 12.
Ruth, aged 10.
DeLoss, aged 7.
Roger, aged 6.
Lawrence, aged 2.

INCOME: Husband works on PWA or WPA road work relief. Earns $12.80 every two weeks. Only two weeks are worked in a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Own a two-room shack and ten acres of land, only three acres being suitable for cultivation. Raise a small crop of corn, potatoes, cane, peas, and beans. Have two cows and eight chickens. Rooms very neatly kept and clean but just a loosely constructed shack not high enough for a man to stand up in. Newspapers kept the air from coming in between the wallboards. Husband has very bad stomach trouble, sometimes falling out on the job. They cannot afford the services of a doctor. Bag money would enable him to buy medicine for this trouble, she says. She loves bag stringing and earns about $12.00 a month at it. This money is absolutely

necessary in order they exist. She makes the children's clothes from material bought with bag money. She finds time to help on the farm, do housework and still work on the bags.

FLETCHER, MRS. ILA, (colored), aged 30; married; three children; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Flossie, aged 18 (mentally afflicted).
Clarence, aged 12.
Dorothy, aged 6.

INCOME: None. Husband unable to secure any work in past six months.

HOME CONDITIONS: Own a two-room shack and one acre of land. This land is two-thirds waste, only a small garden being cultivated. They would like to clear and fertilize the rest of this land but it requires money which they cannot afford to spend. They "rent" a little land on an adjoining on which they raise a bit of corn and potatoes. They money she earns stringing bags is all spent on food. She says they haven't had enough money in months to buy clothes. The children were in rags. They own no cows, chickens, or other stock which would help provide food. She has just had pneumonia and is in a very bad state of health. She said that she will not be able to have the doctor any more because there is no money to pay him. The owe doctor about

$50.00 for the services she received during her recent illness. This family will not possibly be able to exist if the bags are taken away. She earns around $12.00 a month stringing bags. Since they have been stopped recently, they have to live on what the local storekeeper has let them have free.

HOLSCLAW, MRS. BERTHA; married; all children married and away from home; they support two grandchildren, aged 6 and 8 years; wife aged 68 and husband 70 years. They reside in Wilkes Co., N. C.

INCOME: Husband owns and runs a small grocery store which he says nets him around $6.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a seven-room house and 115 acres of land, 25 acres being used for raising corn, wheat, rye, and the vegetables which they eat. The rest of the land is timber and wasteland. Have two cows and about 50 chickens, which supply the milk and eggs. The house is built pretty substantially and kept very clean and orderly. They own several mules which are used in plowing. Mrs. Holsclaw has chronic kidney trouble and states that "one-third of our income is spent on medicine and doctor's bills." She earns around $12.00 a month stringing bags. This money is a great help in buying food and clothes and if discontinued, medical attention and medicines will have to be sacrificed. However, Mr. Holsclaw says that they are not dependent on this bag money. The farm is run by "tenants" who tend to the farming and keeping the place up, giving one-third of the produce to Mr. Holsclaw.

CLARY, MRS. FLOSSIE, aged 42, married, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Norma, aged 17.
Ros ie, aged 15
Metta, aged 14.
Clay, aged 12.
Annie, aged 10.
Lillian, aged 8.

all are in school

Income ; The husband works on W. P. A. road work. This work employs men two weeks out of each month but Mr. Clary finds it impossible for him to work but one week out of the month s ince he has to tend to the farm.

H OME CONDITIONS: The hous e they occupy is entirely unfit for housing purposes being in a dilapidated state. It is impossible to hea t it in cold weather. They have about 30 acres of land located on the side of a mountain, only 2 acres being suited for raising cr ops. The rest has been practically wa shed away. They ow n neither the house nor the land, both being taken over by the county because they were unable to pay taxes for the past three years . The property has been offered for sale three times but has not been sold so far, it being practically worthless. Mrs. Cla ry had flu about 2 years ago which has

left her in ill health. She is very much in need of medical attention but cannnot afford it. She states that the income from the bags pays for all the clothes and a good deal of the food. Since the bags have been temporarily discontinued, she has been unable to buy any clothes at all.

STAMPER, MRS. NOLA, married; ten children; aged 36; age of husband 43; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Verdie, aged 18.
Verna, aged 16.
Fred, aged 15.
Delia, aged 11.
Ted, aged 10.
Lula, aged 8.
Ray, aged 6.
James, aged 4.
Olley, aged 2.
Von, aged 15 months.

INCOME: Husband works on government park project at $20.00 per month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Own three-room house and twenty acres of land, of which about three acres is cultivated. Corn, potatoes, and beans are raised. All the money is spent on food, which is not nearly sufficient and of nourishing value for the children. All their clothes are made at home, flour and sugar bags and other odds and ends being used for material. The children were very poorly

dressed and very dirty. The house is practically devoid of furniture except beds which were very dirty. They have a well at the house, but no electricity or inside toilet facilities. Stringing of bags is absolutely necessary. 85¢ a month is paid into the burial insurance. H has been doing bags for twenty years and would do it just for the pleasure of doing it. She earns about $18.00 a month from this work.

WILES, MRS. LURA; aged 36 years; married; eight children; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Stacy, aged 16.
Reba, aged 15.
Velno, aged 12.
E. R., aged 11.
L. D., aged 9.
Josie, aged 5.
Bryce, aged 2.
Billie, aged 5 days.

INCOME: Husband works PWA relief road work. This pays $12.80 every two weeks, enly working two weeks out of the month. This is full time pay, but it is seldom that he is able to work full time because of bad weather.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent two-room house and land by tending the land and giving one third of the crops to the owner. The house is just a shack and is devoid of any furniture except two beds and a couple of chairs. There was no sign of a stove for heating in the bedroom or means of lighting at night. The room was very cold and airy, newspapers being used to close up the cracks in the walls. Mrs. Wiles was sick in bed, having given

birth to a baby five days ago. She said that she kept the children clothed with the bag money, her husband's income being all spent on food. Even then, the food was insufficient for the family's needs. They owe the doctor around $80.00 for medical services. Apparently there were no cups or drinking glasses because she and the children were drinking from tin cans during the interview. "The bags mean everything to us, and I don't know what we'll do if they are taken away" she said. She has been doing them for years and enjoys the work, and says they don't interfere with her household duties.

CLEARY, MRS. EMMA, married; two children; aged 30; husband aged 60; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: William, aged 12, in school.

Vassie, aged 8, in school.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: Own two-room log cabin and forty acres of land. Only five acres can be cultivated. Husband is barely able to raise the crops on this land as he is in very bad health, suffering from plagary which keeps him in bed under doctor's care a good deal of the time. He owes doctor about $150 but cannot pay on it. He cannot afford to buy medicine, since the only money coming in is from the bags, and has to be spent on food. The house is roughly furnished but neatly kept and clean. There is no electricity, running water or inside toilet facilities. Water is supplied by a well. If the bags are taken away they will not possibly be able to exist. He cannot hold a job on account of his health. The storekeeper has been giving them food since the bags have stopped coming in.

BILLINGS, MRS. ALLEN; aged 60, married, resides in North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Children: All are married and living away from home except one, Faye, who is 31 years of age and a mental invalid. She has a child living at home with them.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a five-room house and six acres of land. The husband suffers from stomach trouble and is unable to work. He has been employed on WPA but his health was responsible for his discharge. He is in need of medical attention that cannot be afforded. They own nothing but a cow and a few chickens. She has a bad case of heart trouble and is unable to do any other kind of work other than the stringing of bags. The income earned from these bags amounts to around $5.00 a month. All food and clothes are bought with this money. The family will be unable to exist if the bag work is discontinued, as neither she nor her husband are able to do any other work.

BOWERS, MRS. CORA, aged 47, married, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Flossie, aged 26.

Lester, aged 22.

John, aged 20.

Van, aged 18.

M. L., aged 16.

Ordelle, aged 14.

Ruth, aged 12.

Margie, aged 9.

Burr, aged 7.

INCOME: None

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a three room home and 45 acres of land, only about 8 acres are suited for cultivation. She earns about $15 a month from stringing bags, which all goes for buying food and clothes. Her has been unable to locate work for the past 6 months. There is no furniture at all in the home excepting three beds and a table and a few chairs. They own 2 cows, 2 horses , and 365 chickens. T hey have been able to secure a little money from the sale of these chickens. It will be impossible for this family to exist if the bags are taken away. She states that she has been doing bags for years and really enjoys the work. She further states that they do not

make her nervous or interfere with any of her household duties .

LYONS, MRS. BETTY, aged 63, ma rried, N orth Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: Mrs . Lyons has one child, Faye McKann, age 32 who is married and living with her husband at home.

INCOME: None

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a 6 room house and 160 acres of land, only 12 acres are worked, the rest being marginal and timberland. T hey own a cow and a few chickens which keep them supplied in eggs and milk. The husband is in ill health and has also been in bed about two months with phneumonia and pleurisy. H e should have medical attention, but Mrs. Lyons states that they could not afford it. B ag stringing being their only source of income, is all spent on food and clothes. T his income amounts to about $10 a month but is not sufficient to take care of food, clothes, and seeds , etc. necessary to run a farm. H er son-in-law has been unable to locate any work and she and her husband are too old to do any other work except on the farm. They will be unable to exist if the bags are taken away from them.

MCBRIDE, MRS. PEARL, aged 43, widow, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Children: B elna, aged 15.

Murrell, aged 13.

Elmore, aged 10.

Diana , aged 8.

Rosalie, aged 17.

She als o takes care of her aged nother-in-law.

INCOME: She receives $12 per month from the Government for her dependent children.

H OME CONDITIONS: They own a three room home but have to rent the land consisting of 10 acres , one third of its produce being given the owner as rent. The house is fairly well furnished and kept in a very neat order. Bag money, wh ich amounts to about $6 a month all goes for buying f ood and clothes . She states that she is in too poor health to be able to do any other work than bags since she is confined to her home most of the time. She also s tates that she does not know what they will do if the bags are taken away.

STAMPER, MRS. ALICE; married, nine children; aged 49; age of husband 53; resides in Wilkes County, N. C.

Children: Arnold, aged 30, at home - unemployed.
Early, aged 26, " " "
Mary, aged 16, " " "
Charlie, aged 18," " "
John, aged 15, " " "
Lee, aged 12, " " in school

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: Husband unemployed for three years. He and the boys help to keep about two of the forty acres which they own plowed and the crops cultivated. The rest of this land is woody and rocky and unfit for raising any vegetables, etc. on. They own one cow and a few chickens which supply them with milk and eggs. About one half of the food has to be bought, but since bags have been discontinued they have had to charge the little they have gotten from the store. If they do not receive bags any more they will not be able to exist. Income from this work averages about $8.00 a month. Taxes have to be paid.

There are three rooms to the house, which is kept very clean. Furnishings are very scanty. Makes the girls and her clothes, the men's being bought. She has been doing bags about thirty years and states that she is lost without them. They have no electricity, running water or inside toilet facilities; water is brought from a nearby spring. Nothing has ever been spent on recreation, all being needed for necessities.

WALKER, MRS. NANCY, aged 36, married, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

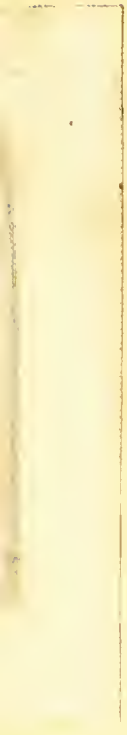
Children: Yudy, aged 16.
Hattie, aged 12.
Corday, aged 9
Russell, aged 8.
Billy Jo, aged 6.
Shelby Jean, aged 3.
One infant.

Mr. Walker's brother, Freeman Walker and sister, Sarah Walker, live with them.

INCOME: The husband works on WPA road work earning $12.80 a month, working only two weeks out of the month. Mr. Walker's sister has been in very ill health for the past four years and is in need of medical attention but has not been able to afford it. Freeman is also in ill health and unable to work.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own a five room home and 18 acres of land, only four acres suited for cultivation. The house is very crudely built and has practically no furniture in it all, but is kept very clean. The husband's income is all spent on food and clothes, which, at the present, is

not sufficient for their needs. The bag money, amounting to about $10 a month also goes for food. Mrs. Walker was sick in bed with flu, but has not been able to have a doctor. She states that it will be necessary for the sister to have medical attention immediately and will have to rely on the bag money to pay for the doctor's services.



DICKENS, MR. THOMAS, aged 33; married, resides in Reidsville, N. C., is blind. He has one child who is married but separated and living with him and his wife.

INCOME: He receives a blind pension of $20.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a three-room home at $7.50 a month, which they state is in very poor condition. They are unable to keep the house warm during cold weather; Their expenses are: water bill, $1.00 a month; electricity, $1.10 a month; and food, $6.00 a week. Mr. Dickens has been blind for thirteen years and states that if he does not have the bag work to occupy his mind, he will go crazy. He earns about $12.00 a month stringing bags. This amount all goes for food and rent. Mrs. Dickens was operated on for hemorrhoid trouble about a year ago, this hospital fee being paid for by the county. The operation has not improved her condition at all. Local doctors state that she is in need of an immediate operation but they are unable to afford it, the cost being around $175.00. Mr. Dickens says that if he can receive bags regularly it may be possible to afford an operation. Bag money has paid for medical attention received so far except the operations.

MRS. HATTIE MAYNARD (colored) has 1 grandchild living with her, whose mother and father are dead. She is 66 years old and her husband is 79. Reside at Reidsville, N.C.

INCOME: They have no income except what they make by stringing bags. Food costs them about $2.50 a week. Rent is $1 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house is just a cabin and has 4 rooms. They only have enough land for a small garden. They own a cow and a few chickens. They have a sewing machine and an old piano. Although the house is small it is very well kept. She has been stringing bags about 35 years and makes $17.00 or $18.00 a month. This is their only income and they couldn't live without this work. Since she is so old, this work bothers her eyes a little.

MAYNARD, MRS. GERTRUDE, (colored) married and has 9 children, all of whom live with her. She is 39 years old and her husband is 44. Reside at Reidsville, N.C.

INCOME: Her husband farms and two of her daughters have jobs at $3.00 a week a piece. Her husband raises 8 acres of tobacco and 15 acres of corn, all of which he sells. He rents his place for half of what he makes. Food costs about $3.50 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: House had 5 rooms and there are about 30 acres of land. The house is in good condition but is not well kept. They own a cow and use the owner's mules to work the farm. She has been stringing bags for 30 years and makes $16.00 or $17.00 a month. This money is badly needed and is a large percent of their income.

MITCHELL, MRS. EMMA, (colored), aged 44; husband 58; have ten children, all of whom live with them at Reidsville, N.C.

INCOME: Their income depends on farming and bag stringing. They raise practically all their food and only have to buy about $8.00 worth a month. Taxes are $25.00 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house is new and has ten rooms, is well furnished, and well kept. They own a car, two mules, two cows, three pigs, and some chickens. They also have a piano, a battery radio, and a sewing machine. She has been stringing bags for 35 years and could make her living by this work alone. She makes about $25.00 a week at this work. Her husband makes enough on the farm to support them but she likes to do this work and make extra money. Her eyes are weak but it doesn't bother her to string bags.

ALLEN, MRS. EUGENIA, (colored); married and has three children and four grandchildren living with her; aged 51; husband aged 59. Reside at Reidsville, N. C.

INCOME: They raise corn and tobacco to sell, and all the food they need. Taxes are about $35.00 a year and they only have to buy food occasionally.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has six rooms and there are 102 acres of land. They own a cow, two mules, four pigs, and a few chickens. The house is well kept and is in good condition. This family could get along without stringing bags but this money helps a lot when they have a bad year on the farm. She has been stringing a long time and makes about $8.00 a week. Her eyes were weakened by sickness but it has never bothered her to string bags.

MRS. PATTIE WILSON (colored) has five children. She is 48 years old and her husband is 60. Live in Reidsville, N.C.

INCOME: They have no income except money made by stringing bags, but they do raise most of their needs on the farm, and 8 or 9 acres of tobacco. Their taxes are about $45 a year. They only have to buy food occasionally. They are trying to buy the place and they spend all their extra money to meet the payments.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 4 rooms and there are 100 acres of land. They own 2 mules, a cow, a pig and a few chickens. They own their own wood. The house needs a new roof but is in good condition otherwise. She has been stringing for 23 years and makes between $11.00 and $18.00 a month, depending on how much work she has to do on the farm. This money is badly needed and she likes to do this work.

BELL, MRS. ROSA, (colored) has 12 children, all but one of whom live with her. She is 45 years old and her husband is 47. They reside in Reidsville, N. C.

INCOME: The whole family farms and raises most of their food. They also raise tobacco and corn to sell. His aunt owns the place and husband rents additional land for farming. He pays 1/4 of what he makes for the use of this land. Groceries cost $2.00 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has 5 rooms and there are 33 acres of land. They own 2 cows, 2 mules, 3 hogs and 25 chickens. They also have a sewing machine. The house is like the rest in this section and is poorly kept. She has been stringing bags ever since she can remember and makes about $15.00 a month. She likes to do this work and it has never affected her health.

NEAL, MRS. CORNELIA, (colored), age 66, husband 70; two children and four grandchildren living with her.

INCOME: They raise some of their food and a little tobacco.

home conditions; The house has eight rooms and there are 62 acres of land. They own 2 mules, a cow and about 50 hens. House is in bad shape but is well kept. Food costs them $3.50 a week and taxes are $41 a year. They have had to borrow money on their home and are trying to pay it back. She has been stringing for 35 years and makes about $26.00 a month. They need this money badly. It tires her a little to string bags because she is so old.

BOLDEN, MRS. ANNIE, (colored, Reidsville, N. C., married and has eight children living with. Her age 45, husband in his fifties

INCOME: They make their living by farming and stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: They raise most of their food but still have to spend about $12 a week on groceries. Their taxes are $30 a year. They own another place which they rent for half of what the man raises. The house has 5 rooms and there are 54 acres of land in this place and 114 in the one that they rent. They own 3 mules, and 3 cows. They also have a Victrola. The house is in good condition and is well kept. She has been stringing bags for thirty years and makes about $68.00 a month. She likes to do this work.

GRAVES, MRS. CORA, (colored), aged 36, husband 38; have 6 children and her mother-in-law living with them at Reidsville, N. C.

INCOME: Their income is from farming and stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has five rooms and there are 104 acres of land. The house is about to fall to pieces but is clean. They own 2 mules, 2 cows, 3 hogs, and a few chickens. They rent the place for half of what they raise, and spend all the money they make stringing bags on food and clothes. She has been stringing bags 25 years and makes about $7.00 a month. She has high blood pressure and can do very little work but it doesn't bother her to string bags. They need this money badly.

JOHNSON, MRS. FLOSSIE, (colored), Separated from husband and has 7 children living with her, at Reidsville, N. C. Her brother and wife live with her. Her age 34.

INCOME: They raise most of their food but their only income is what they make by stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: House has 6 rooms and there are 40 acres of land. They own a radio and a mule, a cow, 2 calves, 5 pigs, and about 50 chickens. House is in good condition but is very dirty. Food costs $6 a week and taxes are $23 a year. She has been stringing for twenty years and makes about $110.00 a month. She is absolutely dependent on bags.

MRS. MARTHA BELTON, Spray, North Carolina, age 69, has one child 27 years of age who lives at home.

INCOME: Anna, the daughter, works in the Spray mill doing part time work and earning about $5 or $6 a week. Mrs. Belton gets $12 per month on the old age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a house at $18 a month. The home is fairly well furnished and neatly kept. The money earned from the bags which amounts to $10 a month is spent on food and doctor's bills. She and her husband are both in very poor health, and have gone in debt with a doctor, being unable to meet the bills. Mrs. Belton has to have special food which makes their grocery bill rather high. They daughter, Anna, is in bad health and really should not work, having had two operations during the past year. She states that the bags are a wonderful help and says that they will have to have other relief if they are taken away. She enjoys doing them as it helps occupy her mind.

MISS MILDRED JONES, Leaksville, North Carolina, age 23, single, but lives with four brothers and sisters as follows

Hazel	17 years
Joseph	14 years
Allen	4 years
Lucille	7 years

INCOME: Her mother works in the Spray mill making $29.44 per month. Her sister's husband works on W.P.A. at $16 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a four room house at $15 a month. She earns about $10 a month on bags, but states that she can do without them if necessary. The income from these bags is spent on her personal necessities. Her home is fairly well furnished and kept very orderly and clean.

KIRKMAN, MRS. HOWARD, aged 27, married; resides at Spray, N. C.

Children: Maynard, aged 6.

Wayne, aged 4.

Shirley, aged 2.

INCOME: The husband has part time work in a Spray mill, earning around $7 and $10.00 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent three rooms at $6.00 a month. The grocery bill is about $5.00 or $6.00 a week. The husband's income is all spent for the food and rent. The money earned from bags which amounts to about $5.00 a month is needed for the children's clothes, the electric light bill and insurance amounting to $3.50 a month. The house is fairly well furnished and is kept clean and neat. She enjoys doing bag work and says it is absolutely necessary to keep the children clothed and for buying personal necessities. If they are taken away it will be necessary to cut down on the amount of food consumed.

MRS. MYRTLE KIRKMAN, Spray, North Carolina, age 30, has two children

J. D. 8 years

Melroy 2 years

INCOME: Mrs. Kirkman's husband works in Spray mill doing part time work and averaging about $7 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: The family rents a home of 4 rooms at $8 a month but has been unable to meet the payments being over $200.00 behind. All of the husband's income goes for paying grocery bill, insurance (which amounts to $3 a month). Bag stringing, which she enjoys doing brings her about $6 a month and all goes in paying back rent. She states that this work will be necessary if she is to keep the family going. It never interferes with her house work or tending of the children.

GRIFFIN, MRS. LESSIE; aged 48, married, resides in Spray, N.C.

Children: Irene, aged 27, works part time in Spray mill.

Lena, aged 25.

Effie, aged 24.

Marion, aged 17.

Mary, aged 14.

Maxine, aged 11.

Dorine, aged 11.

Billy, aged 6.

INCOME: Irene earns about $14.50 when she works full time.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a six-room house at $12.00 a month. The house has electricity, which costs about $1.80 a month. All the money earned on bags is spent for doctor's bill. This income amounts to about $20.00 a month. The husband had a stroke of paralysis about one year ago and requires frequent medical attention. He is confined to his bed. She states that the medicine cost is around $7.00 a week. All of the money earned by Irene goes for food and clothes. She says that it will be impossible to have the required medical attention for her husband if the bags are taken away. The house is very crowded and disorderly. The children wear very scanty clothes. The insurance, which amounts to about $3.50 a month is paid out of the bag money.

MARTIN, MRS. SUSIE: aged 55; married; resides in Spray, N.C.
Children: Russell, aged 22. He and his wife live with her.

INCOME: The son works part time in the Spray mill, making $6.50 per week when he is working. His reason for working part time is due to poor health. During the past year he only worked about six months out of the year.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent their home at $12.00 a month. It is very scantily furnished but neatly kept. The money received from bags which amounts to $6.00 per month is spent on food and clothes. She has been unable to meet her grocery bill since the bags have been discontinued temporarily and has had to go in debt. She feels that it will be impossible to run the home on her son's present income since it is only part time work. Sickness also requires frequent medical attention, but she is unable to have a doctor because of the expense. She finds that the bag work is enjoyable and does not have to neglect her house work to do them.

MRS. SALLIE SHILBEY, Spray, North Carolina, age 21.

Children: Douglas 5 years

Betty 14 months.

INCOME: Husband works at a local mill making $15 per week.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent 2 rooms at $4 a month. They are nicely furnished and very neatly kept. The house has electricity. She states that she clothes herself and the two children with the money she earns from stringing bags. She also states that it never interferes with her house work, and that she really enjoys doing it. Her husband's salary goes for paying rent and groceries. The groceries amount to $10 a month and payments on debts amounting to about $80. The bags are not absolutely necessary but they are a great help.

MRS. MANNIE SCOTT, Spray, North Carolina, age 40, has five children,

Oldsten	17 years
William	14 years
Mozelle	11 years
Wallace	6 years
Rachel	3 years.

INCOME: She receives $20 a month from the state for the children.

HOME CONDITIONS: The husband lost a limb about a year ago and is unable to work. Money received from the State pays the rent which amounts to $6 a month. The house has absolutely no furniture except for 3 beds, a few chairs and a table. The children are very poorly dressed as was the mother and father. The money earned from bags which amounts to about $10 a month is all spent on food. This work is absolutely necessary in order that the children may be fed and clothed. Mrs. Scott is in bad health and fears that she will be unable to do work out of the home. She finds that stringing bags is enjoyable and helps quiet her nerves. They do not interfere with the tending of the house and children.

HODGES, MRS. JENNIE, aged 44; married; resides in Spray, N.C.

Children: Grady, aged 11.
Iris, aged 9.
Melvin, aged 7.
Albert, aged 16.
Peggy, aged 4.
Myrtle, aged 19 months.

(All children except Peggy and Myrtle are in school.)

INCOME: The husband works in Spray mill at $12.00 per week.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a three-room house at $6.00 per month. Prior to about two weeks ago the husband was working only part time and was unable to meet the rent bill with which they are about $100 behind in. The groceries amount to around $3 or $4 a week, but she says that the food is insufficient for the children's needs. They were unable to pay the electric light bill so the electricity has been taken out. Bag money which amounts to $10.00 a month keeps the children clothed, their school supplies and lunches paid for and their insurance amounting to about $4.80 a month. The house is fairly well furnished and kept spotless and clean. She says that the bag stringing is only done in her spare time and that it never interferes with her house work. If the bags are taken away, she will have to have some other form of relief.

BROWN, MRS. JESSIE, aged about 45; married, resides in Spray, N.C.

Children: Annie, aged 17.

Patsy, aged 12.

INCOME: None. Mrs. Brown's husband was laid off about six months ago and he has been unable to locate work since that time.

HOME CONDITIONS: The money earned from these bags pays on the rent amounting to $6.00 a month for three rooms. They are practically devoid of any furniture. The food bill runs around $3.00 a week but she feels that it is insufficient for their needs. The money earned from bag stringing runs about $15.00 a month. This family is in a desperate condition and will not be able to exist if the bags are taken away. Both she and the children were very poorly clad.

GARRETT, MRS. EMMA, 38 years of age; married; seven children; resides at 3011 Williamsburg Ave., Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Charles, aged 13, in school.
Lottie, aged 12, in school.
Evelyn, aged 10, in school.
Robert, aged 9, in school.
James, aged 7, in school.
Lily, aged 5, in school.
Edward, aged 4, at home.

INCOME: Husband is on relief, receiving $39.20 per month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents three downstairs rooms for $5.00 a month. The rooms were very dirty and scantily furnished. They consist of two bedrooms and a kitchen. Only one of the bedrooms is furnished, having a bed, two small wooden chairs and a table, and a large chest which was filled with clothes and odds and ends. This room is occupied by her husband and herself. The furniture in the other bedroom consists solely of two broken-down beds; four children sleep in one and three in the other.

All of the children were at home at the time of inspection and three of them were without shoes or socks, as was the mother, who stated that she only had two dresses. She spends a total of $30.00 a month on food for the seven children, her husband and herself. She states that they cannot buy milk. The children drink tea and coffee. Two of the children had very bad colds. She stated that she did not have money for medicine. She has no icebox and perishable foods are used as soon as they are bought. A wood stove is used for cooking. Electricity and coal costs about $4.00 a month. She is unkempt and unable to work in a factory on account of her children, as well as lack of training. In addition to cooking and caring for the children, she supplements her husband's relief payments to the extent of about $9.00 a month from the stringing of bags, which she uses to pay the rent, coal and electricity. She states that "she enjoys stringing bags and if they are taken away from her she will have to have some kind of outside relief because she will not be able to work away from home." She has been stringing bags for thirteen years.

GRAHAM, MRS. GEORGE, blind age unknown; separated from husband; no children; resides at 512 N. 33rd St., Richmond, Va.

INCOME: None.

EMPLOYMENT: Has never been employed.

HOME CONDITIONS: Has been blind for ten years. She came from Newport News, Virginia, with her husband, who deserted her in June 1933. She has had no trace of him since. She lives at the home of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Mann. The father is employed by the City of Richmond but the amount of his income is small. She states that she enjoys stringing bags and earns from such work as she does about $7.00 a month. She cannot get bags except periodically. This is her only source of income. She uses it for clothes and necessities. She states that she is in dire need of this money, since her father cannot afford to do much for her other than provide shelter and food. She has made many efforts to locate her husband with the help of out-of-town court authorities and the Police Departments.

GAMBILL, MRS. ELIZABETH, aged 28; married, resides at No. 1004½ N. 26th Street, Richmond, Va.; has four children.

Children: Dora, aged 10, in school.
George, aged 7, in school.
Mary, aged 5, in school.
Ann, aged 3, at home.

INCOME: When the husband works he earns around $16.00 per week. Only worked about four months within the past year.

HOME CONDITIONS. The family lives with the wife's sister, occupying two rooms, which are very small and crowded and extremely dirty. They pay $7.00 per week which covers all living expenses. The husband has been employed with wall-paper firm, but his work has been very unsteady and they cannot afford to rent a place of their own. She makes all of the children's and her clothes. She and the children were very unkempt and dirty. Income from bag stringing averages only about $4.00 or $5.00 per month, as she cannot obtain a sufficient number of bags to occupy her spare time. Insurance costs them about $1.20 a month. She

states that the money derived from bag stringing is absolutely necessary and if they are taken away it will be necessary to have relief from some other source. However, she would rather work, if possible, than go on relief.

NEGAARD, MRS. FAY; aged 32; married, two boys, aged 9 and 5, both in school.

INCOME: Her husband earns $70.00 per month from WPA.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent two rooms in basement at $10.00 per month, which includes light and water. The grocery bill runs about $16.00 per week. Insurance is about $1.40 per month and coal $1.55. She earns about $8.00 a month from stringing bags, and states that if the bag stringing is discontinued she will need other work because every cent is spent in clothing and feeding the children. They have been working on bags for about six years. The house is kept very clean and neat and is nicely furnished. The children were fairly well dressed, as was the mother. She makes all the clothes for herself and buys the children's. She does not find that bag stringing interferes with her housekeeping, but sometimes makes her nervous.

REDFORD, MRS. ROSA; widow, aged 75; has four children, all of whom are married and living out of town; resides at No. 529 N. 21st Street, Richmond, Va.

INCOME: Receives $11.50 monthly old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents two rooms for $7.00 per month; both are kept very clean and orderly. She spends about $8.00 a month on food but cannot afford milk and special foods which her doctor says she should have. She has high blood pressure and a bad case of heart trouble. One of her daughters resides in Washington, D. C., and she has been helping her with the rent money but has been unable to do so for the past two months as she is in very bad health and requires constant medical attention, which is very expensive. She receives bags periodically and strings them in spare moments, earning about $3.00 a month. From this she pays the electric light bill amounting to about $1.00 a month and uses the balance for food. She states that it would be impos-

sible for her to get along without the bags, as she can do no other type of work.

MARABLE, MRS. VICTORIA; aged 68 years; married, but separated from husband about eighteen years; resides at 918 North 25th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: She lives with her daughter who pays her board and lodging. She does the bag stringing for enjoyment and for something to keep her mind occupied more than for the benefit she receives. However, she clothes herself with what she makes from bag stringing. Earns about $5.00 or $6.00 a month doing it. She is in good health and does not find that bag stringing affects her nerves or health in any way.

WOOLDRIDGE, MRS. ; widow, aged 68; no children; resides at No. 318 N. 21st Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: $15.00 a month old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents one room at $6.00 a month. Furnishings are modest and room kept in order and clean. Mrs. Wooldridge is on a special diet prescribed by her doctor and has to have a quart of milk a day and other special foods. $4.00 a month has to be spent on medicine as she has heart trouble and high blood pressure. Oil for the stove costs about $3.00 a month and wood $2.00. She makes her own clothes and other household linens. She says that the church helps her in paying her rent and buying food. Income from bag stringing amounts to $3.00 a month and is absolutely necessary. She is able to buy her oil with this. She has had to drop her insurance policy, being unable to make further payments. She is a shut-in and enjoys doing bag work as it helps occupy her mind, as well as supplement her income. She says she will have to make other money if the bag work is discontinued in homes. She cannot get a sufficient number of bags to occupy her spare time.

HOWELL, MRS. BESSIE; married; has not seen her husband for fourteen years; resides at 907 North 25th Street, Richmond, Va. One child, Nellie, 14 years old, and in school.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: She lives with her brother and a sister, and her mother, who is a cripple and can do no housework. The brother's work is unsteady, only working about six months out of the year. His income is unknown. Mrs. Howell earns around $4.00 a month on bag stringing and it all goes for clothing for the child. She states she will be unable to buy clothes for the child and supply her with school supplies and carfare if she does not have this income from bag stringing. The house is scantily furnished but is kept clean and neat. The bag stringing does not interfere with her housework. She finds that it helps her nerves.

DICKMAN, MRS. ALICE, aged 40; widow; seven children; resides at 907 N. 24th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Dorothy, aged 16, in school.
Catherine, aged 14, in school.
Frances, aged 11, in school.
Elvira, aged 10, in school.
Charles, aged 6 in school.
Betty Ann, aged 3, at home.

INCOME: $65.00 per month relief money from City.

HOME CONDITIONS: She rents the upper flat of three rooms for $12.50 per month. Furnished very shabbily and sparsely, but kept orderly and clean. She earns about $6.00 per month from bag stringing, with which she pays all of her insurance amounting to $2.60. The rest is used for clothing for the children. She finds it difficult to keep the children in school supplies and carfare. She states that they have had to miss school several dsys because she has been unable to buy them the necessary supplies. She spends $40.00 per month in groceries but feels that it is insufficient to feed the children properly. She is absolutely dependent on the

bag work, which never, she says, keeps her from her housework or child-caring. Other relief will be necessary if the bags are taken away, but will not be able to leave home to work because of the children.

DUNCAN, MRS. B. C., aged 42 years; married; two children; resides at 3414 East Marshall Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Boy, aged 15.
Girl, aged 14.

INCOME: Her husband is a painter; works about six months out of a year; earns $20.00 a week, but has not worked for three weeks.

HOME CONDITIONS: They own their home, and we were unable to determine if there is any mortgage on it. It is nicely furnished and kept spotlessly clean inside and out. They have a radio, refrigerator and gas stove. Electric and gas bills are about $6.00 a month; insurance about $8.00; groceries average $40.00 a month. They spend about $8.00 a year on recreation for the children. She states that stringing bags is a pleasure and does not interfere with her housework. She earns about $5.00 a month from it. She cannot get bags except occasionally. The money is

needed for the children's carfare, food and necessities, since her husband's income is so indefinite. She has been stringing bags for four years and will have to get some other work which must be done at home if the bag work is discontinued.

LIVESEY, MRS. ANNIE, 68 years of age; widow; no children; resides at 518 N. 24th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: Owns an old home in the negro section of Richmond, from which she receives $12.00 per month rent. From this rent the taxes and repairs must be paid. She formerly lived in this home and only vacated it when the section became occupied by negroes.

HOME CONDITIONS: She lives by herself in one room, for which she pays $5.00 per month. She has no stove nor icebox. It is heated by a small fireplace, the room was very cold when inspected. She spends about $1.00 a week on groceries, eating only cold canned food. The only hot food she ever gets is an occasional cup of coffee or tea which the people who live downstairs send her. There is no running water in her room nor toilet facilities; she obtains her water from downstairs and

keeps it in a pitcher. Her room furnishings consist of a broken-down bed, two delapidated chairs, a medicine chest and a table. The room was very dirty. She has one thin quilt as cover on the bed. She is apparently in very bad health, being afflicted with heart trouble and a bad case of rheumatism but states that she has not enough money to buy medicine even if a doctor prescribed. Her clothes were very thin and ragged; she cannot afford to buy clothes and makes such as she wears from what pieces of material which are sent to her by neighbors. She does not use the one electric light in her room except when she is required to sew at night. She spends $2.00 a month on insurance. All people in her circumstances seem to have a horror of not leaving enough to bury them in event of death. She has been stringing bags for thirty years. At her present age and in her condition she is only able of stringing bags at odd moments. For this service she earns between $4.00 and $5.00 a month, enough to pay the rent. She would be capable of earning more than this but recently she has not been able to obtain bags. She states that "she did not know what she would do without this money, and her doctor told her that bag stringing was advisable, since it kept her mind occupied." She has to stay in her room practically all the time because she cannot walk much, and stated that "she really enjoys sitting by the window stringing bags."

WAGNER, MRS. ; 53 years of age; married; no children; resides at 3005 Williamsburg Avenue, Richmond, Va.

INCOME: Husband works intermittently; has been employedoonly six months out of past year; earns around $12.00 or $15.00 a week when he works.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent 5 rooms at $10.00 per month, which are very scantily furnished and extremely dirty, and very delapidated. Everything they earn is spent. They sometimes get food from the church and charity. The husband states that if it were not for these bags they would be out on the street. At present they are in arrears in their rent and electricity. They have been doing this work for forty-five years and feel that it would be impossible to get along without it. They do not find bag stringing hard work but it makes them a little nervous. The income from the bags is about $8.00 to $10.00 a month. Both were very poorly dressed and she states she has only one dress and no shoes or stockings.

ZIMMER, MRS. EMMA, 50 years of age; married; thirteen children, five are living, and eight dead; resides at 3009 Williamsburg Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: George, aged 19, mentally afflicted and unable to work.

Ann, aged 13, in school.

Catherine, aged 11, in school.

Louise, aged 9, in school.

Harry, aged 7, in school.

INCOME: Her husband is a painter, on relief at present, making approximately $70.00 a month. Pay varies with job. Only works about 8 months out of the year, with a total income of about $550 or $600 a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents a six-room house at about $10.00 a month. The rooms have very little furniture but are kept very clean and tidy. She spends about $64.00 a month on groceries; $4.00 for electricity; $2.50 for insurance; $1.75 for coal and wood. Nothing is spent for recreation. None of the house is heated during the day with the exception of the kitchen. She makes all of the children's

clothes; she and the children wore very ragged ones. In her spare moments she strings tobacco bags, making about $4.00 a month, which she spends on necessities. She has been stringing bags for about thirty-five years. She states that sometimes it gets on her nerves but she doesn't mind it. The bag money is not absolutely necessary but it is very helpful.

VALDRIGHI, MRS. A; widow; aged 43; five children; resides No. 314 N. 21st Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Julia, aged 19; laundry employee; earns about $40.00 per month.

Pearl, aged 17, at home, unemployed.

Annie, aged 14, in school.

Mary, aged 12, in school.

Alfred, aged 9, in school.

INCOME: Julia's salary is the only source of income, which amounts to $40.00 per month. One-half of this amount is given to her mother, with which to run the home. Mrs. Valdrighi receives a monthly grocery order from the City of Richmond for $16.00.

HOME CONDITIONS. Husband died two years ago and left $750.00 mortgage on home. It is doubtful if the home can be sold for the mortgage. Interest payments average about $3.50 per month. The house is kept unusually clean and neat and is nicely furnished. There is no

electricity, gas being used for lighting and cooking. This amounts to around $4.50 a month. The children were very clean and neat in appearance, as was the mother. Julia has trouble with her hands and feet and has to spend about $10.00 a month on medicine and in medical treatments and, therefore, is unable to give her mother more than one-half of her income. Mrs. Valdrighi, after caring for the home and the children has only a small amount of spare time which she utilizes in stringing cotton tobacco bags. She cannot obtain enough to occupy her spare moments but she earns about $4.00 a month therefrom, using $1.40 each month to pay insurance and the balance for food. She states that bag stringing never interferes with her home work and that while it is not absolutely necessary, it is a wonderful help to the family, enabling her to protect her insurance and buy additional food.

WILLIS, MRS. HELEN; married, but separated from husband; no children; aged 32, resides at No. 712 N. 26th St., Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: She has been separated from her husband for several years and receives nothing from him. She lives with her mother and father. Father works on WPA, receiving $39.20 per month. There were three brothers and a sister living with her parents also, and none of these were employed. The house is neatly kept and fairly well furnished. Mrs. Willis does all the housework. She states that the bags do not interfere at all. The rental of this house of six rooms amounts to $12.50 a month; groceries $28.00, and electricity $3.00 per month. Mrs. Willis earns about $6.00 a month on bags, some of which goes to her father for food and the rest being used for personal necessities. She had to drop her insurance policy as she was unable to keep it up.

Her income from bag stringing is absolutely necessary and she will have to have other relief if it is discontinued in homes, as her father cannot support the family on his present income.

TYREE, MRS. AGNES, 51 years of age; married; has three children; resides at 2905 Williamsburg Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Henry, aged 22; employed by W. P. A.
Paul, aged 15; unemployed.
Alice, aged 14; in school.

Her husband is a mental invalid, not capable of working. He has been out of the State of Virginia for eight years.

INCOME: Henry, the oldest child, receives $39.20 per month.

HOME CONDITIONS: She rents a house of five rooms for $10.00 a month. These rooms have practically no furniture and are very dirty and disorderly. All rooms unheated except the kitchen has a stove. There is also a stove in the front room but it is only used at night after supper. She spends $24.00 a month for groceries; $2.00 for electricity, and $3.60 for insurance. She states that when medicine and medical aid is needed money obtained from

the stringing of cotton bags is indispensable. By doing this work in odd moments she earns about ₱5.00 a month. Cannot always get bags when desired. The two children at home were poorly clad and unkempt in appearance. She states that bag stringing sometimes makes her nervous but she must have it for food and necessities. Outside help will be needed if bag stringing in the home be discontinued.

WILLIS, MRS. BERTIE; widow, aged 57; five children, all of whom are married and living away from home; resides at 525 North 21st St., Richmond, Va.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: She has been living with her daughter, Mrs. L. A. Palmer for about one year. Prior to this time she supported herself entirely on her income from stringing bags, which amounts to about $7.00 per month. Her daughter has eight children, all at home or in school. The daughter's husband's work is very irregular and the income is not known. However, she states that they are hardly able to take care of her and the eight children. She is attempting to find outside work at present. The money she earns from bag stringing pays for her clothes and insurance. She feels that this income is indispensable. Her daughter said that Mrs. Willis has a tendency to worry and brood and finds that this work is a great help in keeping her mind occupied. Unfortunately Mrs. Willis cannot get as many bags as she is capable of stringing, as the tobacco industry does not demand production of sufficient bags to take care of all the stringers desiring this work.

BURNETT, MRS. GLADYS, 817 N. 24th Street, Richmond, Virginia; aged 29; married, three children.

Children: Roland, aged 9, in school.
Garland, aged 7, in school.
Virginia, aged 2, at home.

INCOME: They have a monthly grocery ticket of $20.00 from the City. Husband is unemployed. His average wage was $30.00 a month when he was working, but he only works about five months in the year.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent three rooms at $9.00 a month. $20.00 a month is spent on food but she does not feel that it is sufficient for the children. Electricity costs about $1.00 a month. She earns about $6.00 a month from bag stringing. This money is necessary and she will have to receive other relief if this work is discontinued, but will not be able to leave home to work on account of the children. She says bag stringing does not affect her health nor make her nervous. The children's clothes are given by the Social Service Bureau. The rooms are very crowded, poorly furnished

and dirty, but she still says that the bag stringing does not interfere with her housework or attending to the children. The money from bag stringing is also used to pay insurance of ₱2.50 a month.

ALLEN, MRS. JENNIE, married; three children; aged 71; resides at

All children are married and live out of town except one daughter, with whom she and her husband live. Her husband is 80 years of age.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: She and her husband live with her daughter, Mrs. Lillian Shurm, whose husband is an employee of The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company. His salary is not known but he gives Mrs. Shurm $90.00 per month on which to run the house. Mr. Shurm feels that he is able to board her and her husband and pay the insurance but is unable to clothe them and take care of their other personal necessities. She feels that she must help take care of herself and finds bag stringing enjoyable as well as helpful financially.

BRYANT, MRS. NELLIE, aged 31; married; no children, resides at No. 2609 "Q" Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: Husband employee of American Tobacco Company, earning between $18.00 and $20.00 per week. Only works around six months out of a year.

HOME CONDITIONS: Mrs. Bryant is not in good health and requires frequent medical attention. Has also been in hospital several times where she has a large bill. She rents a six-room house at $11.00 per month. Groceries amount to around $28.00 per month. All of the money which she earns stringing bags goes for paying insurance, which amounts to $10.00 a month. Since she is in ill health she would be unable to do other work to replace money earned from bag stringing if it is discontinued in homes. Her husband feels that this extra money is necessary since he only works about half-time. Mrs. Bryant is very nervous and finds bag stringing a great help for this condition.

SANBORN, MRS. LUCY, aged 62, ma rried, 2601 E. Leigh St., Richmond, Va.

INCOME: B oards four people for $45.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: She states her husband is doing independent work out of town and does not make enough money to send her any. She rents five rooms at $20.00 a month and boards four persons. Spends about $8.00 per week on groceries, $2.00 on insurance and around $5. 00 a month for gas and electricity. The house is modestly furnished and very clean. She says she does 'nt know what she'll do if the bags are taken away. They bring her about $8.00 a month, and pays all her insurance. Does'nt mind the work at all, and will take all she can get. It will be necessary for her to get other home work if the bags are discontinued.

SEAY, MRS. KATE; aged 68, married; her husband is 72; lives at 1100 N. 23rd Street, Richmond, Virginia; no children.

INCOME: $30.00 per month pension which Mr. Seay receives from Virginia Electric and Power Company.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent three rooms at $12.00 per month. She has tried to work for other people on the outside but finds she is too weak and sickly to do it. She is more or less confined to her rooms and finds that stringing bags not only earns her around $6.00 a month but it keeps her mind occupied and she enjoys doing it. Her house is kept spotlessly clean and fairly well furnished. Bag stringing does not interfere with her housekeeping. She has been doing this work for five years. She spends $10.00 a month in groceries, $1.00 a month for electricity and about $2.00 a month for gas. Her insurance amounts to $7.50 per month and she uses all of the money that she gets from bag stringing to pay this insurance. She states that the money earned from this work is absolutely necessary and that they will have to receive other relief as they are unable to work.

CARTER, MRS. SARAH, 3015½ Williamsburg Ave., Richmond, Va.,
aged 46; two children. She is married.
Children, Claude, age 9, in school.
Sarah, aged 8, in school.

INCOME: Husband earns $39.20 a month on WPA.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent six rooms house at $10 a month. it was very shabbily furnished and rather cold. The children were very clean and neat. $5 a week is spent on food which she says is not nearly sufficient for the family's needs. She earns about $12 a month from stringing bags which she has been doing for thirty years. She said that if it weren't for this income, they would go hungry. All of this money goes for food and material for making the children's clothes. It will be absolutely necessary for her to have other relief if the bags are taken away. She enjoys doing the bags and does not find that they interfere with her household duties or affect her health in any way.

BRADSHAW, MRS. DAISY; aged 60; married; resides at No. 1007 N. 26th Street, Richmond, Virginia; no children, but they support their granddaughter, Margaret Bigger, 19 years of age.

INCOME: Mrs. Bradshaw receives $20.00 per month from old-age pension. She has a monthly grocery order of $6.00 supplied by the government.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent a house of six rooms, at $12.50 per month. They have been stringing bags for five years. She is assisted by her granddaughter, Margaret. The house is very neat, well furnished and clean. She has electricity which costs about $1.30 per month, coal stove for heat and oil stove for cooking. Both together cost about $12.00 a month. She does all of her housework and the bags are done in her spare time; in fact, she cannot obtain enough bags to occupy their spare time, and the income from bag stringing amounts to only about $5.00 a month. She feels that the bags are not absolutely necessary; however, they constitute a great help in supplying her with necessities and in taking care of emergencies.

TYLER, MRS. L. F.; aged 71; widow for twelve years, resides at No. 913 N. 25th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: $14.00 per month from old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents three rooms for $5.00 per month, which are moderately furnished and very neatly kept. She is very weak and sickly and cannot get around at all. Her income from bag stringing is about $2.00 or $3.00 a month, as she cannot work very much. Her insurance runs about 50¢ per month. Oil for cooking costs about $2.00 a month. The doctor requires her to have a special diet which makes her grocery bill higher than the average. She has to drink a quart of milk a day.

NUNNALLY, JOSEPH E.; aged 73 years; married; nine children; resides at No. 1097 N. 23rd Street, Richmond, Virginia.

Children: Charles, aged 47, resides out of town.
Hazel, aged 43, residing out of town.
Aubrey, aged 38, residing out of town.
Eleanora, aged 36, residing out of town.
Earl, aged 34, residing out of town.
Joseph, aged 45, living at home, unemployed.
Lewis, living at home; has unsteady employment.
Cecil, living at home, WPA employee.

INCOME: Cecil makes $39.20 on WPA work; Lewis' salary cannot be determined because the work is intermittent.

HOME CONDITIONS: The two, man and wife, are supported by the three sons. The husband is in good health but the wife is blind, in poor health, and is completely confined. Both have been stringing bags for about five years. He states, "I enjoy sitting down stringing bags." He makes about

$4.00 per month. This money is used for necessities which they feel their children are incapable of giving them. The wife requires special food as her doctor has prescribed a diet which necessitates special and expensive foods. The home is kept very neat; they have electricity, costing about $1.70 per month; gas which costs about $2.00 per month. Groceries for the family average about $12.00 per month. They feel that the bag money comes in very handy for food. If any extra money comes in it is spent on food. They both feel that the income from the stringing of bags is very necessary. Mr. and Mrs. Nunnally have applied for old-age pension but neither have received it.

BELLAM, MRS. MILLER; aged 64; resides at No. 818 N. 25th Street, Richmond, Virginia; married; husband is 74; no children.

INCOME: Receives $10.00 a month from old-age pension.

HOME CONDITIONS: They live in one room, very crowded, but kept neat and clean. They keep two children in the afternoons for which they receive $1.00 per week. Each one of them eats one meal per day with them. They rent this room for $5.00 per month. The money they receive from stringing bags is spent on food and to pay insurance. She stated she did not know what she would do without the bag money, which brings her from $4.00 to $5.00 per month. She must have outside help if the bags are taken away from her.

COLEMAN, MRS. LILLIE, aged 32; married; one child, Betty Ann, aged 5; resides at 800 N. 26th St., Richmond, Va.

INCOME: Husband employed at Hermitage Cold Storage Company, at $30.00 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents five rooms at $15.00 per month. House is very well furnished; they have a gas stove and electric refrigerator. Gas bill amounts to around $3.00 a month and electricity $2.00. She spends $50.00 a month on food. Only does bags in spare moments, earning about $3.00 a month. This income is not necessary but helps on the insurance, which amounts to about $5.00 a month. She enjoys doing the work to pass away the time.

WHITLOCK, MISS ALICE; aged 69; resides at No. 513 N. 24th Street, Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: $20.00 per month from rental of house which she owns. Do not know if the house is mortgaged.

HOME CONDITIONS: She owns her home and rents the upstairs. Lives by herself. House is kept very neat and clean and is fairly well furnished. She pays about $12.00 per month for groceries; $2.00 a month for insurance and about $2.00 a month for gas. She is in bad health, has heart trouble and has to have the doctor frequently. She takes care of the house unassisted. Says she needs every penny she can make as she has to keep up all the repairs on the home. She likes the bag work. Finds that it makes her nervous at times but does not mind it. The doctor advised this work to keep her mind occupied at night, since she cannot sew at all. She has been doing it for fifty years. Her income from the bags is about $5.00 per month. She states that she needs every penny she can possibly make, although she will be unable to work at anything else if the bags are taken away from her.

BURRUSS, MRS. E. E., married, no children, resides at 2601 E. Leigh Street, Richmond, Va. Aged 32.

INCOME: Husband is a painter and works about six months out of the year. Earns as high as $25.00 a week when working.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rents two rooms at $8.50 a month. Keeps them very neat and clean. Spends about $20.00 per month on groceries. She earns about $8.00 a month stringing bags and uses all of it to buy food and clothes and to pay the rent. This income is necessary to take care of them during the time the husband is not working. Every cent counts, she says, and if the bags are taken away it will be necessary for her to find work elsewhere. She enjoys doing this bag work and it does not affect her health or interfere with her housework.

GERRARD, MRS. FLORENCE, 2617 East Franklin St., Richmond, Va.; aged 63; no children.

INCOME: None.

HOME CONDITIONS: Her husband ran away about a year ago and left her nothing. She lives in one room in the basement and has to do the housework in order to pay for her room and board. She has applied for relief work but has been unable to obtain any. It has been suggested that she go to the City Home but she prefers to work as long as it is possible for her to do so. The money she earns from stringing bags, which amounts to $4.00 a month, all goes for buying her clothes and personal necessities, and medicine. She is in very poor health and feels that bag stringing is the only work she can satisfactorily do, since she has to stay indoors most of the time. She desires more bags than are supplied her.

SMITH, MIS BEULAH, aged 24 years, single, resides at 3013 #. Clay St., Richmond, Virginia.

INCOME: Lives with her sister who earns $15.00 per week.

HOME CONDITIONS: H er sister rents three rooms at $12.00 per month. She has a 12 year old boy who is in school. About $7.00 per week is spent on food; $4.5 0 a month on gas and electeicity; and $4.50 a month on insurance. Nothing is ever spent on any recreational activities since it cannot be afforded.

The house is nicely furnished and kept very clean and nea t. Mis s Smith does all the housework and cooking and still finds time to string enough bags to bring her about $6 .00 a month. This income pays for her insurance an d her personal necessities. She has been stringing baags about four years and enjoys the work. If it is d iscontinued she says she will have to obtain other home work.

MRS. ETHEL GRIFFIN, married, one child 21 years mentally defective, 3011 E. Clay St., Richmond, Va.

INCOME: Husband works on WPA at $50.00 a month.

HOME CONDITIONS: Rent a five room house at $20.00 a month. She keeps it orderly and clean. The food bill runs about $35 a month; gas and electricity $5 and life insurance $3 a month. The husband is in ill health and needs frequent medical attention. This means that the money that would be spent for food and clothes has to go to the doctor. She says that the money she earns from stringing bags is a wonderful help. This amounts to around $7 a month. She says she will need other help if the bags are taken away but will be unable to leave the home <u>because of her helpless daughter</u>. She finds that the bags help her take her mind off her worries and does not interfere with her other duties.

GODSEY, MRS. J. N., 915 Perry St., South Richmond, Va., aged 63, widow and lives with her son and daughter(who is divorced from her husband).

INCOME. Her daughter works but is unable to contribute to her support. Social Service Bureau gives her $16 a month and she has to support her son. She makes a little by doing house cleaning.

HOME CONDITIONS: She has one room for herself and her son. The house is in good condition and is well kept but there is no electricity and few conveniences. Groceries are $4 a week, pays her daughter $4 a month rent, coal oil is 60¢ a week and water is 33¢ a month. Insurance is 9¢ a week. Coal costs $1 a week during winter. She has been stringing bags for ten years and makes about $9.00 a month. Her health has never been affected by this work, and it enables her to live on her own. She uses most of the money to assist her son who is unemployed and cannot obtain relief.

DUNNAVANT, MRS. INEZ, 1722 Porter St., South Richmond, Va; wife aged 48, husband 50; they have one child living with them.

INCOME: Husband is a stove-moulder and gives her $15.00 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has seven rooms, is very well furnished, and very well kept. They have a radio and a washing machine. This family is much better off than others in this section. Groceries are $5.00 a week, insurance is $4.42 a week, taxes are $35.00 a year, lights $1.50 a month, gas $1.20 a month, and water 66¢ a month. She has been stringing bags for eight years and makes $7.00 a month. Although she doesn't have to, she likes to do this work. Her eyes are weak but it doesn't bother her to string. She could string more bags but she sews practically all the clothes she uses and doesn't have more time.

COTTRELL, MRS. MATTIE, 915 Semmes Ave., South Richmond, Va., age 66, widow and lives by herself.

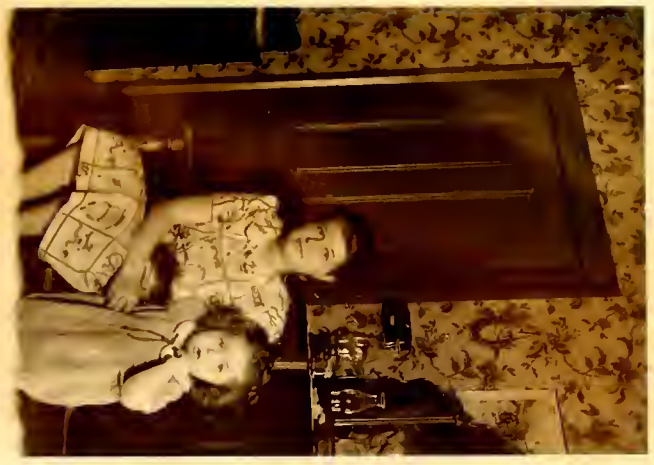
INCOME: She house cleans and makes a little money, but her main income is from stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: She has two rooms which are fairly nice and well furnished. The house is kept very clean and neat. She wouldn't be able to live without the help of bags. A lot of her food is given to her, and she only has to buy about $1.50 a week. The rent is $5.50 a month, including lights and water. Coal oil is 40¢ a week, and coal is 50¢ a week in winter. She can't afford insurance. She has been stringing bags for six years and makes about $6.75 a month. She does all the work herself. This work takes up her spare time and she uses the money for food and rent.

BEASLEY, MRS. PEARL, 506 Decatur St., So. Richmond, Va., age 50, husband 57, has no children living with her.

INCOME: Husband has a steady job sweeping floors at the Dixie Flour Mill at $14 a week; however, he has had to have an operation for ulcers of the stomach and will be unable to work for two or three months. His job is being held open for him, but in the meantime they have no income except what she makes by stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent three rooms in a house which is in good condition. They have a radio and an electric iron and fairly well furnished. When the husband is working they live well enough but now their existence is very uncertain. When the husband is working their grocery bill is $3.50 a week but now they only have enough to barely live on. The rent is $12.50 a month; water is 66¢, electricity is $1.00 and insurance is 50¢ a week. She has been stringing bags for three years and makes $5.75 a month. If she does this work steadily, she becomes a little nervous. Since her husband has been sick she is absolutely dependent on this work for their living. If it was taken away from her at this time they would have to go on relief.



NEWTON, MRS. LUCILLE, 6 E. 9th St., South Richmond, Va. aged 22, husband 24; has one infant child and her mother-in-law living with her.

INCOME: Husband has a part time job at the Deepwater Terminal and gets 50¢ an hour when he is working. He only works when the weather is good and his job is almost over. They have no other income.

HOME CONDITIONS: They rent one large and one small room. They cook and eat in the small room and live in the large one. Although the furnishings and general condition of the place is good, it is ill kept. There is a radio. This family will be able to get by as long as husband has job, but after that they will be dependent on bags for their income. Groceries cost $5 a week, rent is $6 a month, water is included in the rent, and the electricity has been cut off for non-payment; they also cannot afford insurance. She has been stringing for two years and with the aid of her mother-in-law she makes about $9.00 a month. This work has never bothered either one of them. At present they can get along without this work but if her husband gets laid off they will be dependent on it.

TYLER, MRS. ELLEN, 6 E. 9th St., South Richmond, Va.; age 26, husband 27; three infant children living with her.

INCOME: Husband works 3 or 4 days a week for a plumbing supply company. He makes $16 a week if he works a full week, but he hasn't worked a full week for 5 months.

HOME CONDITIONS: The apartment has three rooms which would make nice quarters if they had decent furniture and were kept clean. The grocery bill is $5.00 a week, rent $12 a month, light bill was $2.40 a month, but the lights have been cut off for failure of payment. Water is included in the rent. She has been stringing bags for five years and makes about $7.00 a month. this money is spent on clothes for the children and is the only possible means she has of keeping them clothed.

WATKINS, MRS. LILLIE M., 1425 Semmes Avenue, South Richmond, Va., aged 34, husband 46, they have four children living with them.

INCOME: Husband works five days a week for WPA at $10 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has four rooms, and is in very poor shape; however, it is kept neat and clean. They have a radio and a washing machine. They live behind a filling station and have to get their water from it. Rent is $10.00 a month, groceries $6.00 a week, light $1.10 a month, coal oil is 48¢ a week, insurance 75¢ a week, and coal last winter cost $8. She has been s tringing for four years and makes $4.50 a month. This money is badly needed, and is used for necessities. She likes to do this work and it doesn't bother or interfere with the household duties and care of the four children.

CROWDER, MRS. SUSIE, 901 Porter St., South Richmond, Va., aged 31, husband 35; has one child living with her.

INCOME: Husband was working for $2.50 a week but now works for a garage doing piece work, but only gets very little for this.

HOME CONDITIONS: Apartment has two rooms which are well kept, but the house is in need of repairs. She has been sick and has to go to the clinic twice a week, and is, therefore, unable to work. Groceries cost $2.50 a week, rent $3.00 a month, lights have been cut off, insurance had to be discontinued, and water is 66¢ a month. The City has been giving them coal and coal oil. She has been stringing for six years and makes $1.50 a week. She has to have this work in order to live. This doesn't bother her, and she likes to do it.

DAVIS, MRS. MAUDE, 316 W. 7th St., South Richmond, Va.; aged 39, husband 52; three infant children living with her.

INCOME: Husband works for the Miller Manufacturing Co., making window frames. He gives her $18 a week.

HOME CONDITIONS: THEY have 4 rooms which are fairly well furnished and kept. The house is in good condition and they have a radio and a washing machine. This family could live fairly well if their debts were paid. Since they owe these debts, they are only allowed to spend $7 a week on groceries, she would ordinarily spend $10 a week for this. Rent is $10 a month, lights are $3 a month, water is 66¢ a month, insurance is $1.43 a week, and wood is $5.00 a month in the winter. She has been stringing bags for six years and makes about $8.75 a month. She likes this work and it doesn't hurt her. This is the only money they have for clothes for themselves and the three children.

SPROUSE, MRS. HATTIE, 714 Perry St., South Richmond, Va.;
age 22, husband 31; three infant children living with her.
INCOME: Their only income is a $5 a week relief meal ticket.
HOME CONDITIONS: They have three rooms which are well furnished and clean, but the house itself is in bad shape. They seem to be getting enough to live on with the help of bags. She pays water bill of 66¢ a month, the rent and lights are given to them and fuel and food come from relief. She has been stringing for three years and makes $7.00 a month. Her Eyes are weak and if she does this work at night it makes them tired. Since this is the only cash income they have, it is all they have to buy clothes and other things that are not given to them.

JENKINS, 23 W. 9th St., South Richmond, Va.; age 67; widow and has two infant grandchildren living with her.

INCOME: One grandaughter works and gives her $5 a week and she rents the second floor of her house, but the rent only pays her taxes; she has no other income except money made by stringing bags.

HOME CONDITIONS: She has three rooms of the house for herself. The whole house is in need of repairs which she can't afford. Her rooms are poorly furnished but well kept. She has a radio. Can't afford to insure the house. Groceries are $5 a week, lights $1.20 a month, and water 66¢ a month. Taxes are about $100 a year and so is income for renting part of house. She has been stringing for three years andis unable to do any other work. She makes $11.50 a month, this money enables her to keep off relief. She uses some of it for her light and water bills.

WILKERSON, MRS. ALICE, 23 W. 9th St., South Richmond, Va. age 61, wodow and has a daughter and a granddaughter living with her.

INCOME: Her only income besides what she makes by stringing bags is $10 a week that her daughter gives her.

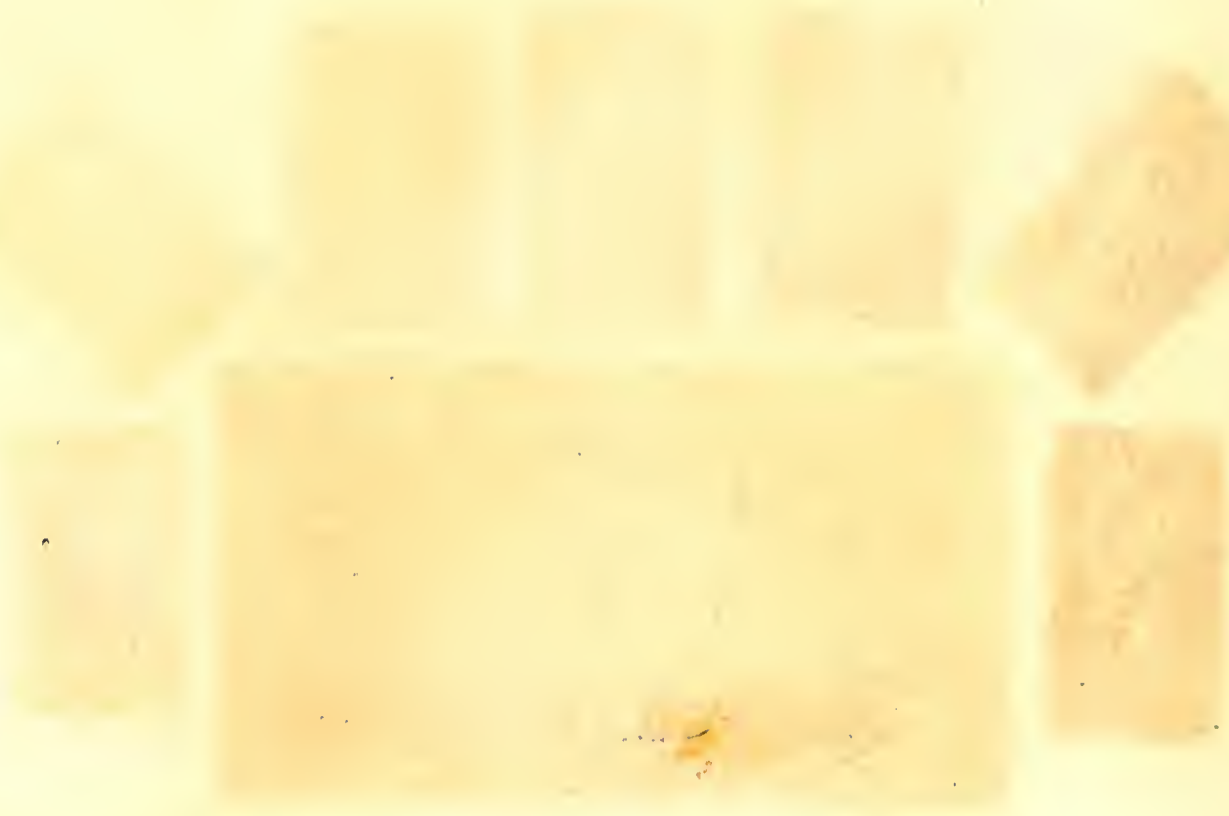
HOME CONDITIONS: There are three rooms in her apartment which are well kept and fairly well furnished. She owns an electric refrigerator and a radio. This family is not dependent on bag stringing, but it allows them to live a little better. She has done this work for five years and makes $11 a month. She likes to do this work because she is too old to do anything else and it occupies her spare time. She would have been unable to buy coal last winter had it not been for the money she made by stringing bags.

DURRETTE, MRS. JOSEPHINE, 210 W. 8th St., South Richmond, Va. aged 50, widow and has six children living with her.

INCOME: A son makes $8.50 a week on WPA but this is the family's only income except money derived from bag stringing.

HOME CONDITIONS: The house has four rooms and needs repairs badly. There is no electricity, but they have a battery radio. The house is well furnished and clean. Groceries are $8.00 a week, rent $15.00 a month, water 66¢ a month. Insurance is 30¢ a week. She has been stringing bags for eighteen years and with the help of the children that are old enough she makes about $41.00a month. This work has never affected their health and without it they would not be able to live without outside aid.

NORTH CAROLINA DISTRIBUTORS



John E. Slater, Executive Vice President, Virginia-Carolina Service Corp.

RICHMOND DISTRIBUTORS

Miss Nora McNamara, who has been stringing bags for more than 50 years, and Sherlock Bronson, President, Virginia-Carolina Service Corp.

It is declared to be the policy of this Act not to displace the use of cotton or cotton materials and the administrator shall by regulations or by orders exempt any work where the application of the provisions of Section 6 may result in the use of other materials in substitution for cotton materials, provided, however, (a) that the work is performed by hand and is performed entirely in the home of the worker and at times convenient to the worker, (b) that the income derived from such work is supplemental to income derived from farming, or other and regular employment, (c) that the rate of wages or compensation per number of pieces shall be not less than the direct labor cost for the same number of pieces if the work is performed by machine, and (d) that the work cannot be performed by machine or that machines for the performance of such work are patented and are not made reasonably available to competing manufacturers.